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THE DAWN OF THE NEW YEAR

Brings Fear Upon Those Without Hope.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

MEETING OF THE JEANES FUND BOARD

MONEY NEEDED TO FURTHER WORK

Several Interviews with Mr. Taft—President Doing Substantial Things for Negro—General News.

Thompson's National News Bureau.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—The meeting of the Jeanes Fund Board of Directors and "other things" brought a big delegation of prominent colored men to town last week. President Taft is a member of the board, and that body accepted the invitation of the President to hold its principal session at the White House. The proceedings of the board are too well known to make repetition necessary at this time. Suffice it to say, the board decided that 152 teachers should be employed during the coming year, this force to be divided into extension workers, supervisors and organizers. It is proposed to include in the field of activity 1,600 schools and 132 colleges. The organization is so perfected that all that is now needed to enlarge the scope of the work is more money. There was some discussion as to the feasibility of asking federal aid to forward the movement, as it was pointed out that even a million dollars would be inadequate when it has to cover the immense area of the southern states. A spirit of self-help is to be inculated among the colored students of the land. A special effort is to be made to lengthen the school terms throughout the South and to introduce, as far as possible, some ideas on home satitation in the rural districts. The work is being carried on through the use of the proceeds of an invested million dollars left by Miss Anna T. Jeanes, a philanthropist of Philadelphia, for the purpose of encouraging the movement for the education of colored children in the thinly-populated country regions of the Southland. The money was thus set aside largely upon the recommendation of Dr. Booker T. Washington, who has long emphasized the crying needs of the schools for Negroes in the rural districts of the South. President Taft and all of the members evinced the deepest interest in the proceedings, and the prospect of additional help for the cause is regarded as bright.

Among those present, besides the Chief Executive and Dr. Booker T. Washington, were Bishop Abraham Grant, of the A. M. E. Church; Andrew Carnegie, Robert C. Ogden, Major R. R. Moton, of Hampton Institute; Dr. S. C. Mitchell, of Columbia, S. C.; R. L. Smith, Paris, Texas; Dr. Talcott Williams, Philadelphia; George McAneny, president of the Borough of Manhattan, New York; Dr. H. B. Frissell, of Hampton Institute; George Foster Peabody, of New York; Belton Gilreath, Birmingham, Ala., and J. C. Napier, Nashville, Tenn.

* * *

Rumor has it that a number of the "visiting statesmen" took the pains to interview the President on matters other than educational, and several went away with a smile that rivalled the Chief Executive's own in breadth and sunniness. Mr. Napier is said to be slated for something very good—perhaps better than that to which popular gossip has assigned him. Bishop Grant and Registter W. T. Vernon went away arm-in-arm, and looked the picture of content. None of the gentlemen would [illegible] for publication, but they are [illegible] sub rosa, as [illegible] that they had [illegible] very satisfactory interview with the President." Other well known edu[illegible] and statesmen who spent a few [illegible] in the city, and it is presumed f[illegible] to drop in at the White House [illegible] Prof. W. S. Scarborough, president of Wilberforce University; Lawyer Scip[illegible] A. Jones, of Arkansas, who is said to be an aspirant for Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Arkansas [illegible] that State; Lawyer Alfred C. Cowan, of Brooklyn, N. Y., promoter of a gold mi[illegible] in Africa; W. D. Johnson, editor of the Standard, Lexington, Ky., an "original Taft man," who would like to be Rec[illegible] order of Deeds for the District of Columbia; James G. Carter, Counsel at Tamatave, Madagascar, who called to pay his [illegible] respects and to report the record-breaking commercial development he has set [illegible] motion at his port; Col. Henry Linco[illegible] Johnson, of Georgia, who is said to h[illegible] the best ear of Postmaster-General Hitchcock; Former Register Judson W. Lyons who is putting in some fine work for the passage of the bill to reimburse the depositors of the ill-fated Freedmen's Bank, and was primarily responsible for the urgent recommendation of the President in his annual message [illegible] at the measure be passed by Congress. These are a few of the advanced guard which have honored us with their presence; others are announced for an early visit. Offices are given out sparingly so far, but there is no telling what may happen shortly. The incumbents of the larger places are now so sure of their own safety that they are keeping the latch-string on the outside of the door and bidding all comers welcome.

* * *

Speaking of the slowness with which offices are being distributed among the brethren, one very good friend of the administration said to your correspondent:

"As a matter of fact," said he, "the colored brother has no real basis for complaint against the President on this score. Offices isn't everything to the race. The men we now have at the helm are rendering gilt edged service; why displace them for others who have neither their experience as officers nor their record as useful party leaders. If the outsiders know of a place that is vacant, why don't they sail in for it and bring their influence to bear upon it, just as other candidates would do?

"But passing that over," continued our loquacious friend, "the President is doing some substantial things for the race that show his concern as to our well-being quite as effective as the handing out of a few pobs to individuals. He is doing a larger service for our people than the mere distribution of patronage. For instance, his letter denouncing the Straus amendment during the heat of the campaign for the disfranchisement of the Negro in Maryland was a potent factor in the defeat of that infamous measure. President Taft did not mince his words, but put forth a body blow in support of the franchise for the Negro. Again, he gives practical encouragement to the race's desire to put its best foot foremost by recommending the passage of the bill looking to the promotion if the semi-centennial exposition, designed to indicate the progress of the Negro since emancipation. He argues the justice of the proposition that the government reimburse the depositors of the old Freedmen's Bank, in which the earstwhile ward of the nation was induced to place his savings, infereptially, if not actually, under a government guarantee of its soundness. And last but by no means least, the President has gone upon record as sympathizing with the project to have this government intervene for the protection and development of the Liberian Republic.

"While office is mighty acceptable, and we ought to have plenty of them, let us not forget while we push our claims and growl beneath our breath that President Taft is not overlooking the welfare of the Negro in the larger issues that touch the race."

* * *

The District's judicial appointments are to be made soon—perhaps this very week. As foeshadowed in these columns some time ago, Judge Robert H. T. Terrell will again be named for his present seat on the bench of the Municipal Court. The matter was gone over at length a few days ago, and positive assurance was given by the appointing power that Judge Terrell will be among the five who will hand down decisions from the Municipal Court for another term.

There isn't a more popular man nor a more highly esteemed official in the District than Judge Terrell, and his host of friends are jubilant over the news that he is to be retained. He is a graduate of the law department of Harvard, served brilliantly in the office of the auditor for the navy department under Major Lynch, was an admirable principal of the M Street High School, and, at the bar, made an enviable record. As a fraternity leader, a churchman, an educator, public-spirited citizen and promoter of the race's good in all directions, Judge Terrell has stood in the front rank, and his reappointment is the logical result of such helpful activity.

* * *

Senator Jones, of the State of Washington, has introduced in the Senate the bill reported by Representatives Rodenberk and Taylor last week, providing for the appointment of a commission of seven to investigate the feasibility of holding a semi-centennial exposition showing the progress of the Negro in his fifty years of freedom, and carrying an appropriation of $5,000 for the expenses of such commission. The measure will be given early consideration, and since it has the earnest approval of the President there is little doubt that it will be passed without notable opposition.

* * *

Prof. Kelly Miller, in a clearly written and convincing letter in the Washington Herald, makes a plea for a share of the "Morrill Fund" for the benefit of Howard University's scientific department. The purpose of the "Morrill Fund" is to encourage the several States to prosecute the scientific study of agriculture, and is to be apportioned among them on the basis of population and number of schools offering such courses. Prof. Miller points out the advantages that would accrue to the race and nation from the help that this fund would give to Howard University, situated as it is at the nation's capital, easily accessible to the great department of agriculture, where may be found, as no where else, every facility for the practical knowledge of this fundamental branch of scientific inquiry, and drawing upon the people of the whole country for its students. Prof. Miller says, in part:

"The allotment of the Negro's share of this fund to Howard University would be of the greatest significance to the colored race. This institution stands out conspicuously in the eye of the nation as the 'national university' for colored youth. Congress has just established there a science hall at a total cost of $90,000, which will shortly be completed and equipped with adequate facilities for up-to-date work in physics, chemistry and biology. The first outlet to these sciences is in the medical department. The next natural step is scientific agriculture. Agriculture today furnishes the most fertile field for the application of science to the practical affairs of life."

The authorities are very favorable to allotting a share of this fund to George Washington University on the ground marked out so strikingly by Prof. Miller, and there are stronger reasons why Howard should be given consideration than the down-town institution, which has fewer opportunities for practical demonstrations and does not reach a race of which so large a percentage depend upon agriculture for a livelihood. Eighty-five per cent. of the Negroes of America earn their bread directly or indirectly from the soil. It is believed that Howard will secure a liberal share of the "Morrill Fund," as the argument brought forward by Prof. Miller, supplemented with the efforts of President Thirkfield, is attracting widespread and sympathetic attention.

* * *

The "Hiawatha Theater" is giving a splendid holiday line of specialties. On Christmas day the pretty little playhouse was packed from 4 to 11 o'clock with a delighted crowd. The instructive religious spectacle, "The Star of Bethlehem," was presented, and Mr. T. Spencer Finley, Hiawatha's bright and particular star, sang the beautiful sacred selection, "The New Born King." During the week Mr. Finley is appearing in high-class comedy work in connection with Mr. Richards, and is repeating his success of the past three months. It is no small achievement for a comedian to stay at one house and play to practically the same audiences for three months without losing his hold; but this is what Mr. Finley has done and is now "going bigger than ever." His jokes are always new, his wit is clean and wholesome and his songs are the very latest. He appeals to the thinking classes, and they are always keenly alive to the merit of the bright "stuff" he devises for their entertainment. The management is liberal, up-to-date and intend to keep their show up to the highest standard, regardless of cost.

* * *

Secretary L. E. Johnson announces that work will be resumed on the Y. M. C. A. building as soon as arrangements can be made for the collection of certain subscriptions that have been promised. The idea is to get sufficient funds in hand to complete the structure before the builders take hold again. A further donation may be made by John D. Rockefeller, and Andrew Carnegie is said to be considering the matter of making a generous contribution.

* * *

Prof. Kelly Miller, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Howard University, is to deliver the emancipation day address at a grand celebration in Charlotte, N. C., on January 1st. He will be tendered a banquet by the Negro Business League of that city. Later Dean Miller will fill lecture engagements in New York and Baltimore.

* * *

The Washington Conservatory of Music has been holding an attractive art exhibit, opening on Saturday, December 18, and closing at 10 p. m., December 20th. The principal exhibits were: Embroidery by Mrs. Margaret Fortie, of Philadelphia, winner of the first prize in Wanamaker's Art Exhibit; china painting by Mrs. Harriet Gibbs Marshall, president of the Conservatory of Music; sculpture by Mr. Isaac Hathaway, of Kentucky, and photography by Mr. Addison Norton Scurlock, of this city. Many visitors, hailing from various sections of the country, were present during the exhibit, and all spoke in the highest terms of the work that was shown.

* * *

A new colored high school is badly needed in the District. In appreciation of this fact Senator Burkett, of Nebraska, has offered an amendment to the District appropriation bill, providing for the expenditure of $260,000 for the purchase of a site and the erection of a building to be used as a high school for the colored children of the District. The board of education and colored citizens generally will lend all posible aid to secure the passage of the amendment.

* * *

M. Price-Mars, secretary of the Haitian Legation, in a recent address on "The Negro" at Plymouth Congregational Church, declared that the cause of the black man is the same the world over. He analyzed the conditions under which the Negro labors in every country, and emphasized the necessity of greater racial unity, a stronger commercial impulse, a keener sense of industrial equipment, and the development of an optimistic spirit that keeps alive the soul and renders a people capable of taking on the higher temporal and spiritual duties of life. M. Price-Mars, since his arrival here as secretary to Minister Sannon, has evinced a deep interest in the affairs of the colored people and is often seen in the religious, literary and social gatherings of our people. He is fortunate in having for his Washington mentor so capable and broad-gauged a race leader as the Rev. John F. Hurst, financial secretary of the A. M. E. Church, who is himself a native of Haiti.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. John Trammell have built an elegant residence at Fairmount Heights, which bids fair to be the favorite suburb for well-to-do home owners. The Trammell mansion is said to be one of the finest in the vicinity, having all modern improvements, furnace heat, electric lights and elaborate interior finish. A wide veranda surrounds the house on three sides and the lawn has been treated by an expert landscape gardener. The architect was Mr. Roscoe Vaughan, of the Armstrong Technical High School, and Mr. R. W. Gillam was the builder. Washington society will find the home of Mr. and Mrs. Trammell, at Fairmount Heights, a delightful place to visit, as both are liberal entertainers and always have an open door to their friends.

* * *

Mr. Marshall, the new athletic coach at Howard University, and also instructor in the academy, was formerly captain of the team at Exter Academy, and for three years was on the football team at Williams. He took his degree from the University of Michigan.

* * *

Rev. L. G. Jordan, secretary of the foreign mission board of the National Baptist Convention, is sending out a strong appeal to all the churches of the denomination and all who stand for "Africa for Christ," asking for a contribution for the benefit of the overdue salaries of the missionaries in Africa and the mortgage on the church and school properties at Queenstown and Chriadzula, Africa, and in Demerara, South America, amounting to quite $3,000. Dr. Jordan suggests that every church take up a special collection for this cause on "Watch-Meeting Night," and that the money be sent him on New Year's Day at his headquarters, 726 West Walnut street, Louisville, Ky. It is hoped that not less than $6,000 will be raised.

* * *

The Brownsville Court of Inquiry, sitting on the cases of the discharged soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, is making slow progress it seems. This week the principal witness has been Boyd Conyers, of Georgia, whose alleged "confession" of complicity in the "shooting-up" of the town has been the subject of an acrimonious controversy. A number of witnesses have been examined as to their knowledge of Conyers and the incidents that he described as facts. Conyers was in his first enlistment when discharged, and is not an applicant for re-enlistment.

So far only a few of the discharged soldiers have responded to the appeal of the court to appear for examination, and it is said that the others are disinclined to come to this city from their homes in the South and West unless the court will reimburse them for their traveling expenses. The court has no funds to meet such expenses. Out of 167 soldiers discharged about seventy originally offered to appear before the court for examination, provided their expenses were paid. These men, it is understood, desire to be reinstated in the army. Capt. C. R. Howland is conducting the examination of witnesses for the court, and many of the soldiers are being represented by Gen. Claggett, U. S. A., retired, and Mr. N. B. Marshall, as counsel. The court will sit throughout the holiday season, except on Christmas and New Year's days.

* * *

The L'Allegro Glee Club gave its initial concert last night, at True Reformers' Hall, for the benefit of the colored social settlement house in south Washington, in charge of Miss Kloise Bibb. Mr. E. R. Amos is president of the club. The program rendered was very fine.

* * *

A bill to provide for "jim crow" street cars in the District of Columbia has been presented in the House by Representative Hefin, of Alabama. The bill is being laughed at by the reputable members of Congress. It is regarded as a joke. It will not pas.

* * *

W. W. Martin has moved his Northwest Cafe to the building at the corner of Eleventh and U streets nowthwest, recently occupied by the Clarke Training School. The place has been fitted up in elegant style. Mr. Martin will make a specialty of high-class catering, and will endeavor to answer the demand for a restaurant of the first grade "uptown." The building was recently acquired by the Brown Realty Company, of Newport News, Va., at a cost of $12,000, the sale having been negotiated by Mr. W. H. C. Brown, representing the company here. Mr. Martin has taken a five year lease on the place at an annual rental of $1,000.

* * *

Major Arthur Brooks has resumed his duties as military instructor of the high school cadets, temporarily relinquished during his 13,000-mile trip across the continent with President Taft. Capt. R. L. Webster, of the District National Guard, satisfactorily substituted in his absence.

* * *

Architec W. Sidney Pittman has been re-elected president of the Fairmount Heights Citizens' Association.

R. W. THOMPSON.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Hebron Lodge No. 1711 G. U. O. O. F. entertained at Buck's Hall Wednesday, December 29. H. Martin, N. G.; A. W. Roberts, P. S.... Stereopticon lecture will be given by Dr. W. Sampson Brooks at St. Peter's A. M. E. Church, December 29. Rev. C. H. Boone, pastor.... The following young people are the guests of Miss Jane Barkdale: Dr. Thomas Elston, Dr. O. M. Thompson of Meharry College and Miss Novilie Matthews of Nashville. They will be entertained Monday by Mrs. Cobb, Tuesday at noon by Mrs. Wiree and Tuesday afternoon by Mrs. N. Dixon.

FREEMAN CHRISTMAS TREE

DESIRABLE PRESENTS FO WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

FOR WHICH THEY WOULD BE THANKFUL

Compliments of the Season for Ada Overton Walker—New Lease for Rosco Conkling Simmons—Gifts for Everybody.

Mrs. Aida Overton Walker—The compliments of the season from La Loie Fuller.

* * *

Roscoe Conkling Simmons—A new lease of life for the New York National Review.

* * *

Missionary Bishop W. H. Heard—Assignment to an American Episcopal district.

* * *

Dr. H. W. Furniss—An indeterminate sentence to residence in the American legation at Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

* * *

N. B. Marshall ad Gilchrist Stewart—Permit to re-enlist 167 Negro soldiers of the discharged "Black Battalion."

* * *

W. H. Steward—Designation of the American Baptist as the official organ of the National Baptist Convention.

* * *

Emmett J. Scott—Membership on permanent commission to adjust international relations of the Liberian Republic.

* * *

Judge M. W. Gibbs—A large collection of informing literary works for the M. W. Gibbs High School, Little Rock, Ark.

* * *

Charles Stewart—General manager of a square-toed Negro department of the Associated Press, with headquarters at Chicago.

* * *

Henry Lincoln Johnson—A nod of approval from Postmaster General Hitchcock, in remembrance of last year's campaign.

* * *

Col. Henry A. Rucker—Reappointment as Collector of Internal Revenue at Atlanta, Ga., in consonance with the merit system.

* * *

Rev. Ernest Lyon—A complete record of the dinners he has eaten and the speeches he has made since his return from Liberia.

* * *

Walter L. Cohen—Continuance as Louisiana's political leader, with an assurance of a fair and square deal at the hands of the "lily whites."

* * *

W. H. Lewis and S. Laing Williams—Urgent invitation from the President and Attorney General to stay where they are indefinitely.

* * *

Major Arthur Brooks—A latch string to the front door of the White House, a yard long, for the accommodation of visiting statesmen.

* * *

Noah D. Thompson—License from Chicago's City Council as official pilot and chaperone for all distinguished visitors to the Windy City.

* * *

J. C. Napier—A neat surprise and innovation in the shape of an appointment as one of the Assistant Postmasters General of the United States.

* * *

W. L. Houston—A roster of half a million members before the expiration of his term as Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows.

* * *

Prof. E. L. Blackshear, Dr. R. E. Jones and Dr. C. T. Walker—Places on the Commission of Seven to plan for the 1913 Semi-Centennial Exposition.

* * *

Citizens of Louisville, Baltimore, Norfolk, Richmond, Raleigh, Washington and Nashville—Seat of 1913 Semi-Centennial Exposition of Negro Progress.

* * *

Dr. R. H. Boyd—Unanimous vote of thanks from the Baptist denomination for the great printing plant he has built up for its benefit at Nashville, Tenn.

* * *

Bishop Alexander Walters—A half million "insurgents" to act with the National Negro American Political Alliance in the congressional campaign next year.

* * *

Ralph W. Tyler—Editorship and managerial control of a great daily newspaper at the nation's capital, with a fine publishing plant in connection therewith.

* * *

Phil Waters, N. D. Brascher, William Milton Lewis, Archie V. Jones, Dr. M. A. Majors, C. N. Love and T. H. Johnson—A good-sized slice of "Washington Pie."

* * *

Gov. P. B. S. Pinchback—A specially created sinecure at Washington, at a handsome salary, in which to round out a long and useful career to his race and party.

* * *

Ira T. Bryant—A receipt in full for all indebtedness charged to the account of the A. M. E. Sunday School Union at Nashville, with a guarantee of re-election in 1912.

* * *

Prof. R. R. Wright—A big chunk of sound advice that will lead to a satisfactory combination of all forces interested in holding a Semi-Centennial Exposition in 1913.

* * *

W. R. Griffin—A bigger True Reformer Hall to fit the large Fountain he has developed at Washington, and a commodious garage for his automobile company's thriving business.

* * *

Mme. Sissieretta Jones, Mme. E. Azalia Hackley, H. T. Burleigh, H. L. Freeman, J. Henry Lewis and John T. Layton—The sincere thanks of a grateful race for their

Continued on Page Four.

The National Negro Business League.

Its Influence Upon Business Activity Among Negro People.

At the beginning of the period of the agitation of the slavery question in this country, Wendell Phillips, of Massachusetts, on one occasion, in substance said that whenever you find a half-dozen persons assembled, imbued with a spirit of one mind and determined, seriously deliberating upon the accomplishment of an end, there begins a revolution.

When Dr. Booker T. Washington invited some of the business men of the race to meet him in the city of Boston, in the month of August, 1900, to take under consideration plans for forming an organization to be composed mainly of the men and women of the race who had done something worth while in the field of trade and commerce, a handful, so to speak, responded and brought into action the National Negro Business League. A revolution was then and there started for the purpose of discovering and revealing unto the Negro himself, and also to the country at large, the economic and business thrift and growth of a race, only a few years removed from a condition of servitude, from which they had been emancipated, almost without a dollar, or a spot on which they could lay their heads and say, "this is my own."

The annual meetings, which have been held since 1900, during the past ten years, to which there have come up from different sections of the United States men and women, representing nearly every phase of business endeavor, that the members of any other race have followed, is now a record of history, well known to those who have informed themselves of the proceedings of the several sessions of the National Business League, as published in both the white and colored press throughout the country, at the time of the holding of these conventions.

The aphorism, "Nothing succeeds like success" was never more true, nor more applicable than in the sure and steady growth of the workings and the influence of this organic body during this period. For, as R. W. Thompson, of the National News Bureau, truly says in his writeup of the late annual meeting, "The Louisville convention marks a distinct step forward for the National Negro Business League in a commercial, moral and inspirational sense, and the perpetuity of the organization has been more firmly established than ever before."

Its object, "To Promote the Commercial and Financial Development of the Negro in This Country," is very gratifying to every one who has any knowledge of the influence of the National Business League upon this phase of the race's advancement and the results. For the national organization and its local branches reach and influence, directly or indirectly, nearly fifty thousand persons annually.

We do not believe it would be putting it too strongly to assert that the organization represents more brains and wealth, thrift and industry, than any other secular institution ever established among our people.

To deal in "glittering generalities," however, does not satisfy the materialistic mind. He is like the character from Missouri, who "must be shown." He is looking for results. He asks for something tangible and visible before he will be convinced.

Well, let us see what has been the stimulating effects of the National Business League upon the individual Negro. There are hundreds, aye, perhaps thousands, of instances; but for the want of space we can mention only one or two.

In the city of Richmond, Va., there is a young man, D. J. Bradford, owner of a coal and wood business, who had hauled into his quarters forty-two cars of wood and coal during the months of July, August and September last year. The sales for the month of September alone, so he reports, amounted to $1,370.66.

This young man was once a waiter in one of the leading hotels in that city. Having attended the annual sessions of the National Business League somewhere at some time, he was so encouraged and inspired by what he saw and heard there that he decided to quit the vocation of a waiter and start some kind of business of his own. with the above results.

Another instance similar to the one just cited is that of a young man, T. G. Robinson, now living in Dyersburg, Tenn., who is conservatively rated to be worth at least $35,000. He told us when we first met and talked with him last spring that his start in business was due to his having attended the annual meeting of the National Negro Business. League when it convened in Nashville, Tenn., in the month of August, 1903. Up to that time he had been roaming over the country. That while he made "fast" money, it likewise went fast. But after he attended this meeting and heard the exchange of experiences of men who had begun business with only a few dollars as capital, but by close and diligent application to their calling had, as a result of it, become wealthy—he determined to quit roving about and try to accumulate something.

He, therefore, landed in Dyersburg with only ninety cents in his pockets, but possessed of an indomitable spirit and resistless will power, be began a new life. At the time we were talking with him he was an extensive dealer in real estate, the owner of one of the largest grocery stores in the place, and the only Negro district superintendent of a leading white insurance company, with its headquarters in Nashville. Moreover, he was living in a beautiful residence of a modern style, nicely and completely furnished, costing $3,800.

The above instances, and doubtless hundreds of others could be named, are illustrations and proofs of the spirit and work of the national organization, stimulating and influencing the young men of the race to seek and start some kind of business venture and become successful financial factors in their respective communities.

This very same influence has also been felt in hamlets, in towns and in cities populated more or less by our people. We, however, have space to mention only one place, and that is Bristol, Tenn.

When the third session of the Business League was held in Richmond, Va., in August, 1902, Robert E. Clay, the proprietor of a white barber shop in Bristol, was one of the delegates for the first time at any of these meetings. He became so interested and aroused while listening to the experiences of those who had been invited to speak and inform the public as to how they made a start, and, surmounting the obstacles, finally succeeded in their different lines of business activities, that he decided that just as soon as he returned home he would try to establish a branch of the National Business League. At first he didn't receive much aid or encouragement. He did not, however, so he says, become dismayed and abandon the idea; but he persevered unceasingly until things came his way. So that today there is in Bristol one of the most influential, popular and serviceable local Business Leagues of the 500 that have been organized in this country. There was scarcely a respectable business concern in the city prior to the formation of this league.

Today, as a result of it, there are over a dozen prosperous businesses in operation by our people, such as a wood and coal yard, grocery, dry goods and shoe stores, a splendid funeral establishment, a decent cafe and some other business enterprises, all of which are well patronized not only by members of the race but by others also.

It is an interesting and gratifying fact, too, that the local league here is almost as popular with the white man in business as it is with the Negro. For we recall with much pleasure, as well as surprise, that when we were on a visit there last spring, on being introduced to the leading business and newspaper men of the other race, they invariably expressed their pleasure at our coming to their city, that we might witness for ourselves the business activity that had been effected among some of our people, through the medium and influence of the league.

They ,furthermore, assured us that whatever "Bob" Clay (as he is familiarly called by his friends) and "his league" wants, we are behind them. We are satisfied that the spirit herein manifested by the words above can be fully corroborated by those who were so fortunate as to be members of the Washington party that recently toured the State of Tennessee, beginning at Bristol. For we are informed that not only the business houses of the white merchants there were decorated with flags and bunting, as were the colored places, but these same white merchants closed up during part of the day and went to the opera house to hear Dr. Washington speak.

So much for the influence of the Business League upon a whole community, which can likewise be duplicated by a score of other places if necessary.

Its influence, like an octopus (but with a different purpose and intent) reaches out, takes hold of and permeates not only the individual and community, but a whole state sometimes.

The first state to feel the force and power of the National Negro Business League was Mississippi. The leading business spirits of that commonwealth, who had at different times attended the annual meetings of the national convention, felt that the conditions were such as to warrant an attempt at concentrating the varied business agencies of the state. A call, therefore, for that purpose was extensively circulated, and the Negro in almost every kind of business pursuit, from different parts of the state, answered. A State Business League was formed, as the result of this gathering, in the city of Greenville in the summer of 1905, with the Hon. Charles Banks, of Mound Bayou, the influential and aggressive race leader, as its president.

What this State League, together with its local branches that honeycomb the state, so to speak, has wrought among our people in the different avenues of trade and commerce, is a record of recent history, as demonstrated on the "Mississippi Day," at the Louisville meeting last August.

Eight other states have followed Missisipi's example and formed similar organizations, viz., Texas, Arkansas, Florida, Oklahoma, Colorado, Indiana, Alabama, and lastly North Carolina, which, during the Colored Fair, held in the city of Raleigh, October 25 to 30, this fall, launched one of the strongest and most influential state organizations of the galaxy already in existence, with John Merrick, of Durham, "the prince" of Negro business men in the "Old North State," as its first president. More could and might be said of the stimulating effects of the great National Negro Business League upon the dormant commercial possibilities of the Negro in this country. But this ought to be sufficient to prove to any intelligent and unprejudiced person, who is cognizant of the facts, that no other organization has been formed since the Emancipation which has so successfully advanced those interests of the race that make for its highest and most enduring recognition and civilization than the National Negro Business League.

It is not a question debatable as to whether the organization is going to succeed—it is already a success.

Nutus sapientiae est sat.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mr. A. H. Berry will give a Christmas dancing party in Excelsior Parlors, Thursday evening, December 30. Music by Traxler's orchestra....J. H. Johnson, of Ashtabula, O., was in the city Monday on business....Mrs. Daniel Barrett is on the sick list, and also James Price and Floyd Nuckles....The concert given in Newcastle, Tuesday, by the Coleridge Taylor Choral Society, was a success....Miss Bessie Kemp, of this city, and Hershel Jones, of Rochester, N. Y., were married in New York November 29. They will reside in this city....The funeral of the late Mrs. Price was held Saturday afternoon, from the Mahoning Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. Ross officiating. It was in charge of the True Reformers, of which she was a member....Mr. and Mrs. Will Logan and Mr. and Mrs. Will Green are rejoicing over boys. Mr. and Mrs. Jean Murrell and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ervin are rejoicing over girls....Mrs. Christ. Hamilton returned from Chicago last week....The Young Men's Business Club will give a dance in Excelsior Parlors, Monday evening, December 27....Logan Lodge, K. of P., met in regular session Wednesday evening and transacted important business. The meeting was well attended. The next meeting will be on December 29....Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Ridout have moved to their new home at Stop 25, on Sharon line....Mrs. Queen E. Ridout will be the guest of Mrs. Lucy Johnson, of Cleveland, during the holidays....Mrs. Mayme Banks was the guest of Mrs. Queen Ridout last week....The Women's Progressive Club was instituted into the secrets of the Household of Ruth, December 9, under the direction of Mrs. Nannie Banks, D. M. N. G., of Middletown, O., assisted by members from Cleveland, Mrs. Rebecca Reed, Mrs. Priscilla Day, Mrs. Lizzie Brown, Ella Ablet; Mrs. Turner, of Bellaire; Mrs. Queen Ridout, of this city, who is a past officer of the order, and a number from Newcastle. Mrs. Ridout was the instigator of the organization of the local order and much credit is due her. The G. O. O. F. served the newly initiated candidates with a banquet in the Elks' Rest at the close of the ceremony. The following are the officers: Mrs. Samuel, P. M. N. G.; Mrs. Queen Ridout, M. M. G.; Iccia Lottier, N. secretary; Mary Fields, R. secretary; Cora Crumwell, treasurer; Matilda Churchville, prelate...Mrs. Louise Turner, Mrs. Lizzie Brown and Mrs. Day were the guests of Mrs. J. H. Stewart; Mrs. Etta B. Johnson and Ella Abbet were the guests of Mrs. John Crumwell....Gold Leaf Company, D. U. R., K. of P., met in the hall Saturday evening. After routine business the following committee was appointed to arrange for a widow and widower social for Saturday evening, in Forster Hall: Sir Knights James Williams, Wm. Saunders, John Seadon, E. S. Moore, Mose Sutton. There will be a program and refreshments. Admission free....Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Harris, of Wic avenue extension, celebrated their thirtieth wedding anniversary. A number of friends called on them. ....Douglas Whitehead is home with an infected finger....Archie Thomas, Henry Ragland and Mr. Woodworth attended the banquet Wednesday evening, given by the John City Lodge of Elks....Buckeye Lodge of Elks, No. 73, of this city, is arranging to entertain Jack Johnson on the evening of January 4, when he is to give an exhibition in Youngstown.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Master Earl Jackson is the recipient of an elegant Kimball piano, as a Christmas present from his mother....Mrs. Bessie Williams is representing the Menten & Rosenbloom Company, the largest retail clothiers in nthe world, in our city....Mrs. W. L. Hodge was the guest of Mrs. W. L. Brown, Saturday....The Pastors' Aid met at the home of Mrs. I. F. Williams, the past week....Mr. S. L. Henderson spent Sunday visiting in Chicago, Ill. ....Mr. and Mrs. W. Jefferson and Mr. and Mrs. J. Seabolt left Friday for Wabash, Ind., to spend the holidays....The fair given at the A. M. E. Church, Friday, December 17, 1909, was a grand success. ....Mr. and Mrs. John Gaines have left for Lansing, Mich., to spend the holidays. ....Don't forget preaching at the Second Baptist Church, both morning and evening, Sunday, December 26, by Rev. V. S. Cooper....The Willing Workers met at the home of Mrs. Daniel Buckner....Miss Nettie Lee Brown and Mr. Howard Clark were united in marriage at the home of Mrs. C. Miller, of Chicago, Ill., and will make this city their future home....The Freeman can be found at 50 Warren street. G. B. Williams, agent.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mr. and Mrs. White will entertain a number of their friends Thursday evening, from 8 to 11, at the home of Mr. Snelling, 492 Michigan street....The St. Luke's Bazaar closed Wednesday, with much success. Two hundred dollars was raised....Little Anna Smith received the first prize on the doll at St. Luke's fair, having brought in $9. The trustees made a very good start Monday night at the 'possum supper....Mr. Charles Snelling, of 492 Michigan street, is on the sick list. ....There was a Christmas tree at St. Luke's, Friday night.

More Money For Colored People

This is one of the objects of this great Beneficial and Protective organization. The I-L-U Grand Lodge aims to improve the condition, in a financial way, as well as morally and industrially, of every member, colored as well as white. **Higher Wages, Shorter Hours, Equal Opportunities, Self Betterment and Protection** generally, are among the things for which our members work. It is an International Chartered Co-operative Society in every sense of the term. No matter where you live, or what your occupation, be you married or single, employer or employee, it will be greatly to your advantage to join the I-L-U Grand Lodge. Members aid their unemployed brothers and sisters to secure work, help them when sick or disabled, and where death occurs in the family.

Big Cash Benefits

At death of member, $100 cash is paid to beneficiary. At death of wife, or other beneficiary, member secures $25. At death of member's child, $10, or of baby, $5. There are many other benefits not allowed by other organizations.

Membership is open to both sexes, including boys and girls over 16 years old. No discrimination as to nationality, color, politics or religion.

Over 50,000 men and women have already joined our ranks, having found this the grandest and most uplifting Beneficial Protective institution in existence. We invite you to join. Send 10c for copy of official paper, the "I-L-U Home Journal," circular matter and full particulars.

If you join promptly, we will give you authority to represent us in your locality. You can devote your spare hours to securing members, for which we will pay you liberaly. We also need a few Traveling Representatives who can give their entire time to this work; good pay, including traveling expenses. Write at once!

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dealer in new and second hand goods. It costs you nothing to inspect my stock. Always something on hand that is the very thing you need. Special bargains to young married couples. New phone 5407. 353 Indiana Ave. 223 West Vermont street.

COLORED PEOPLE TREATED WHITE

Say, Try "Chaptilla,"

That dainty toilet delight and bleach, free from grease. Keep the skin silky soft and imparts that whiteness and suppleness so essential to beauty. Only at

Stout's Drug Store,
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A WOMAN'S JUST PRIDE IS HER HAIR.

To straighten out that kinky, curly hair, putting it in the most perfect condition to be combed into any shape, just try a bottle of **LINCOLN HAIR POMADE.** There is no other preparation on earth to equal **LINCOLN HAIR POMADE** in producing soft, beautiful hair. Lincoln Hair Pomade is a natural hair cleanser—a natural promoter of growth and naturally reduces the hair to a straight and combable condition; but also supplies the hair with a silky sheen and gloss. No matter how rough or heavy your hair is now, no matter how hard or curly it may be the use of Lincoln Hair Pomade will give you hair that can well be the envy of others. Lincoln Hair Pomade is the only highly recommended preparation for this purpose on the market.

It is Lincoln Hair Pomade you want, so refuse weak and inferior substitutes. Do not take anything that is claimed to be just as good, but insist on getting the genuine.

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Is Your Hair Beautiful Soft, Silky and Long?

Does it comb easily without breaking?
Is it straight?
Does it smooth out nicely?
Can you do it up in any of the charming styles, so it will stay, and make you proud of it?
Is it long and full of life?
If you cannot say YES to all of the above questions, then you need

Nelson's Hair Dressing

NELSON'S HAIR DRESSING is the finest hair pomade on the face of the earth for colored people. It makes your hair grow fast; it makes stubborn, kinky and tangled hair as soft and supple as silk. It makes it healthy. It keeps it from splitting or breaking off. It makes it rich and gives it that charm so longed for by all true ladies.

Use Nelson's Hair Dressing and you'll never have dandruff. Your head will keep clean. The roots of your hair will have the necessary amount of oil. You will never have scalp disease. You will be delighted with its delicate perfume.

Nelson's Hair Dressing is put up in handsome four-ounce square tin boxes, like the lady holds in her hand. Druggists and agents everywhere sell it at 25 cents a box. If you can't get it, send us 30 cents and we will mail you a full size box postpaid. Go and buy it now, or sit right down and write us. Address

NELSON MANUFACTURING CO., Richmond, Va.
Live Agents Wanted. Write Quick for Terms.

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Standard and Fancy Groceries, the best Fresh and Salt Meats
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THAT'S WHY most men prefer their top piece branded with a "Levinson Label" If there's a new "kink" known to Hatdom, I have it.

Stiff or Soft
Fall Styles. **$2**

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The Store for Bargains.
A fine line of Watches, Diamonds, Clocks and Stringed Instruments. If you are contemplating making a present, we are sure to have what you want. Fine watch repairing.
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Has opened with a complete line of the latest styles in
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You are invited to inspect their goods.

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Leave Indianapolis		Arrive Chicago
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Asks your patronage. Place your order with
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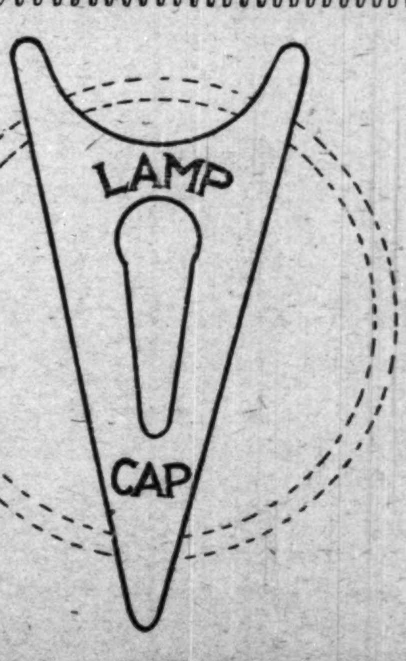

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The cut here-in, a display of the Eureka Comb in its purity. Scientifically constructed. A combination of metals—brass, copper and steel—a battery. For the purpose here-in mentioned: By straightening beautifully crimpy hair, making straight hair soft and airy, causing anybody's hair to grow rapidly, no doubt about it; putting the scalp and hair in a most perfect condition; a preventative from any ill effects in its use, a great aid to nature, stopping the hair from falling, eradicating dandruff. There are other Combs. The Eureka has no equal—satisfying the most doubtful. Since we know the cause of not having beautiful hair, we offer our Comb as an aid, quickening in every manner, giving what is considered one's glory, Beautiful Hair. We warn the public against imitations. A Letter Patent and the secret of preparing the metals in the construction, are in our keeping. We guarantee the Comb to answer for every purpose here-in disclosed. We repeat again the splendid results obtained by following directions that are sent out with every Comb. Price complete, each, $1.50 (one dollar and fifty cents). The Eureka Quinine and Pomade, a splendid preparation, works in harmony with the Comb. Price **50c** (fifty cents) per four ounce can. P. O., Express Money Order or Certified Check should accompany order, otherwise we send C. O. D.

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Eureka Comb Co.
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Mme. L. C. Parrish

Hair Culturing, Manicuring, and Scalp Treatment

The largest manufacturer of Hair preparations in Boston. Dealer in Pure Human Hair Goods.

For growing hair on bald heads and bare temples, use Parrish's Never Fail Hair Food. Per jar . . . . 50c.

For developing and beautifying the skin, use Parrish's Orange Flower Skin Food. Per jar . . . . 25c.

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For stimulating the growth of the hair, use Parrish's Wonderful Hair Tonic. Per bottle . . . . 50c.

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Wigs, Switches, Pomps and Puffs to match your hair. Splendid workmanship. Reasonable prices.

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Ladies Gold Filled Watches $12 [illegible] Hand Painted China Dishes from 50c [illegible] Diamond Rings from $7 to $450 Bracelets, Cuff Cuttons, Fine Pins [illegible] Charms, Hat Pins, Back Combs, Umbrellas and a thousand other things appropriate for Christmas Gifts. Call and make your select[ion] now.

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General News

NEWARK, OHIO.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. Chas. Perrin entertained Friday evening at her home in Granville, honoring her guests, Miss Smith and Miss Ada Brown, of Springfield, O....The preparations that are being made for the Christmas bazaar for the A. M. E. Church, the 22d, 23d and 24th of this month, are many, and it promises to excel anything of the past. Wednesday night will be a repetition of the "Old Folks' Concert," which was rendered very successfully a few months ago. Thursday night will bring the return of the favorites of "A Clergyman's Courtship," in a new burlesque. Mr. Geo. Weaver will appear in the role of "Uncle Reuben Wayback." All acquainted with this versatile young man will well know what this means to the public. Friday the juveniles will appear in a "Christmas Cantata," which will be no less interesting to old as well as young. ....Mrs. Claude Pattengall, her sister, Miss Goldie Harris, and niece, Miss Faustine Harris, will spend Christmas with relatives in Rendville, O....Reports from the bedside of Miss Dora Guy, who was taken suddenly ill while attending the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Lowery in Columbus, and was operated on for appendicitis, are that she is recovering rapidly....Mrs. Jos. L. Ogilvie will spend Christmas with her father, Joseph Johnson, in Springfield, O....We have with us our long-desired leader, in the person of Rev. Lee, one who does not hesitate to get out and wake up the dozing members of his congregation, and if the church does not prosper in the ensuing year it will certainly not be the fault of our pastor. Too much praise cannot be given Mrs. Lee, as she is in every way the helpmeet all pastors should have in order to prosper in their work, for with the sweet, smiling face and kind words always ready for those she meets in the walk of life she has chosen, there is no possibility of them not doing wonders in putting the church on a good foundation again. So may we all lend a helping hand, and encourage and not discourage their good efforts in bringing us nearer to one another and all closer to God. May God bless their mighty efforts.

GALESBURG, ILL.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The Dasie Dean Walker Culture Club met at the residence of Mrs. Lewis Carter, Jr. Miss Walker addressed the girls with one of her delightful heart-to-heart talks, which went straight home to every member present and was thankfully receivd.... The Thimble Circle met with Mrs. Lewis Carter, Sr., Friday afternoon....The lecture given in the A. M. E. Church by Mr. Pope Wednesday night was very enjoyable, as it was given with moving pictures, making plan and interesting to all....Mrs. oJnes and Mrs. L. C. Carter were guests at oud club this afternoon....Misses Addie Johnson, Lena Green and Mayme Richardson are new members of the D. D. W. C. Club....Mr. C. H. Howerton received a message that his father was quite ill at his home in Virginia, where he has gone. ....Mr. Gabe Lewis and his band gave a concert in Lincoln Memorial Church. The band was organized by Mr. Lewis a year ago. Considering the time they did fine, and we are looking to them for Galesburg's colored band in the future....Miss Daisy Dean Walker recited at the concert in Lincoln Memorial Church, and received compliments from all who heard her....Miss Mattie Mason read a very interesting paper on the life of Paul Lawrence Dunbar at the Culture Club Wednesday afternoon....Mrs. Francis Harber and children have joined her husband to make their home in our city. Mr. Harber has two Pantomine Clubs, and both are doing e business. W eeraaeepdsinlas cmfwypsh fine business. We are pleased to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Harber to our city....Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Fletcher, of Quincy, are in Galesburg for the winter....Mr. and Mrs. Roy Anderson, of Mounmouth, spent Wednesday afternoon with his mother, Mrs. Pauline Anderson....Mr. Tipton Gash has a very creditable little indergarden at his home on West First street. Mrs. James Echols, of Chicago, will visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Finney, Xmas....Mrs. Emma Kidd and Mrs. Mollie Mitchell have returned home after a two wees visit in Chicago with Mrs. Mitchell's daughter, Mrs. Bertha Green.... Friendship Court No. 40 met in their hall Friday night....Mrs. Addie Garnett and Mrs. Chas. Davis will entertain for Miss Daisy Dean Wauer at the residence of the former Tuesday afternoon.

MOBILE, ALA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The last meeting of the school board of Mobile county met and from the request of a special committee recommended and had passed before the council of Mobile the change of names for the three colored schools. Broad Street Academy is now the A. F. Owens High School, Orange Grove is the Booer T. Washington, Augusta Street is the W. H. Councill. These names are much better suited for the different school buildings....The Negro Bank and Reality Co. will swing their doors open for business on the first week in January. The bank corporation purchased the Albert Boyds building....The Burden, Holman & Brown Glee Club repeated the musical program at the State Street Church last Monday night. Miss J. G. Walker, the musical director, deserves much credit for the excellent work in coaching the members of the club, as the program rendered was very classy and the audience well repaid for the time spent in hearing the numbers of the concert.... The old members of State street Sunday school will have a reunion of teachers and members of the Sunday school Sunday morning, Dec. 26. Mr. R. Durden, superintendent, Rev. I. W. Wood, pastor, Mrs. Lillie B. Williamson, assist in work for the Ladies' Department....The Warren Street M. E. Church has Rev. H. N. Brown, D. D., as the pastor in charge. He is one of the best preachers in this diosese, and such men are needed today in all colored pulpits. Rev. P. J. Goins has been re-elected over the district as presiding elder.... The agent of The Freeman thanks the patrons of the paper for the fast ending year of 1909 and wishes them a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. Remember, this is the last week for getting subscription for $1.00 for 52 weeks. Your friend would be pleased to get your order in the person of C. M. Wilkerson, Agt.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The Domestic Social Club met recently with Mrs. D. D. Thomas and was royally entertained....Mrs. Mattie Carpenter, who has been quite ill, is able to be about.... Mr. George Coffman, of S. Koskuio street, is slowly improving from his recent illness. His daughter, Mrs. Mammie Edwards, of Carrollton, Ill., is in the city on account of the illness of her father.... Mrs. George Clark is slowly improving from her recent illness....Mr. James Redding is able to be about after a serious illness....Mrs. Zora Stewart died recently at her home on East Washington street, after a short illness. She was born in Ashley, Mo., and was a woman loved by all who knew her. Her funeral was held at the eBthel A. M. E. Church. Rev. Goff had charge of the funeral services, assisted by Rev. Christy. She leaves a father, two brothers, a husband, three children and a host of friends. Interment was in the East Cemetery....The Wednesday Art Club met recently with Mrs. Dr. Agnew and was royally entertained. Mrs. Thomas Robinson, who has movtd to Kansas City, Mo....Mr. Guy Washington, who has been indisposed, is able to be about. ....Joseph Carter had the misfortune recently to scald his face, which is very painful...Mrs. Carrie Williams, of South Sandy street, is some better at this writing....The installation of Rev. Dr. DeWitt took place Friday night, Dec. 17, at Company L Hall, and was well attended. Rev. DeWitt was installed pastor of the Second Baptist Church, and will reside in this city on South West street. Excellent music was furnished by Miss Margarite DeWitt at the installation. Their many friends are glad to have them reside in this city....Miss Eva Triplett is doing some fine high school work.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

"The Rivals," Miss L. O. Smith's new play, with a cast of eighteen characters, will be produced at Dania Hall, corner of Fifth street and Cedar avenue, Tuesday evening, December 28, 1909, for the benefit of the Fidelity Court of Calanthe, No. 345. Admission, 25 cents. Curtain rises at 8:30 p. m. Mrs. Geo. Barnett, W. C.; Miss Alice Marshall, R. of D., and Miss L. O. Smith, director....The building committee of St. Thomas Mission is delighted with the progress being made by the contractor and builder of their new church at Twenty-seventh street and Fifth avenue, South. The congregation expects to hold the first ceremonies in the new church building Christmas morning.... Dr. Adam Speed, chiropodist, has arranged with Messrs. Utley and Vass, of the Commercial Barber Shop, 94 East Fifth street, to receive patients there. He relieves corns, bunions, ingrowing nails, and all afflictions of the feet, without pain. He will call at residences or of places of business without extra charge. Prices reasonable and work guaranteed. Office hours, 9 to 11 a. m....The grand Christmas ball which was given by the Ames Lodge, No. 106, I. P. S. E. W., at Dearborn Hall, last Thursday evening, December 23, was a grand affair. Refreshments were served by the members of the lodge, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The music was furnished by Mme. Hale-McCullough's full orchestra. There will be a public installation at South Side Auditorium some time in January, due notice of which will be given. The third of the series will be a masquerade ball in February....At the B. A. C. Club's last meeting a captain and manager for its 1910 football team were elected. Half Back Steward was elected manager and Full Back Wilson captain. There was also a captain elected for the club's 1909-10 hockey team, Harvey Moss being the lucky one....Tyler's Dancing Academy is now open at South Side Auditorium, formerly Normanna Hall, Twelfth avenue, South, and Third street. Dancing classes every first and third Monday in each month. A. C. Irwin, dancing master.... Mrs. S. Sample and daughter, Miss Laura Sample, left the city last Sunday evening, December 20, for a few weeks' visit with friends in Indianapolis, Ind....The Choral Study Club, with a chorus of twenty-five voices, under the direction of W. C. Jeffrey, will give another annual sacred program at St. Peter's A. M. E. Church, Sunday evening, December 26....There will be special Christmas services at Bethesda Baptist Church, both morning and evening, Sunday, December 26. In the morning the pastor, Rev. J. T. Carter, will preach. In the evening Mrs. Ridges will speak....The Freeman correspondent and agent in this city is James F. Wilson, 2818 Chicago avenue. Mr. Wilson would like to secure your news items each week, and also supply you with a copy of The Freeman.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. C. H. Thomas, of Monongahela avenue, is very ill....Mrs. Ida Beall, sister of the late Miss Blanche Dixon, expected to see her sister before she was buried, but did not get word in time to attend the funeral....Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Thomas and granddaughter Alpha will take their departure from this city to Hopedale, O., in the spring....The A. M. E. Sunday school and the M. E. Sunday school gave a joint union Christmas treat, which was held in Jones Chapel M. E. Church....Miss Mattie Prouty, the school teacher of this city, will spend her Christmas holidays at her home in Brownsville, Pa....Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Thomas will spend their Christmas holidays among their relatives and friends at Columbus, O....Miss Ethel Gordon, the school teacher of this city, will spend her Christmas holidays among her relatives at Uniontown, Pa....Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Thomas, of Monongahela avenue, entertained Mrs. Amy Everson and daughter Blanche for supper on last Tuesday evening. 'Possum and roast 'coon, baked sweet potatoes and gravy, and other delicacies of the season, were enjoyed.... Mrs. Amy Everson and daughter Blanche and Mrs. Goodwin and family were Sunday callers at Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Thomas', Monongahela avenue....The Angelic Union Rally was held in the A. M. E. Church last Sunday. Good sermons were preached at 11 a. m. by J. H. Lewis and at 3 p. m. by Rev. Moses Offer; at 8 p. m. Rev. A. J. Payne preached....Mrs. Ida Beall arrived in this city last Thursday, and will take the place of her deceased sister, Blanche Dixon, at Prof. A. R. Whitehill's.

CENTRALIA, ILL.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

T. Calaway and F. Campbell have erected one of the largest buildings in southern Illinois, called the Masonic Hall, with four departments, full two stories high. The upper storry is for all occasions, such as shows, entertainments, dancing, etc. The lower departments are to be used as a store and barber shop. This hall has been needed here for the last twenty-five years. We have no more excuses now for renting white people's halls and going where we are not wanted only for the money....The Baptist Church gave an entertainment at Masonic Hall here on the 17th, also a baby show. Mr. Thornton's girl of 10 years won first prize; Mr. Hines baby of 8 won the second prize; Mr. Leak's baby, one and a half years, winning third pribe. The debate, subject, "Which Is Most Beneficial, Capital or Labor?" resulted in a tie.

MINEOLA, TEXAS.

Special to The Freeman.

We have a beautiful town here, and it is in the county of Wood. The streets are clean and in good shape. The town has plenty of good water and good lights.... W. T. Daviage has completed his new opera house, and the matinee company played in it December 14. This is one of the best opera houses in the State....The good white people of the South are always ready to help a Negro who will help himself. The man who is too lazy to help himself, and has his health, is the one who doesn't need help....Mineola has plenty of churches for colored people, but it has no colored bank. One man can't do much here....Miss Clara Witherspoon will be in Fort Worth for two or three weeks.... Eli Jackson and Wade Wooten will move on the Munzerheimer farm next year.... We had a snowstorm here the 18th and it was very cold....Prof. Veasy has a big Christmas present—a boy and girl. He has four children now.

SHERMAN, TEXAS.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. G. W. Hume has the finest cafe in northern Texas. When in the city call and take your meals there. Fine line of confectioneries. Drink at the superb soda fountain. Near the Union Passenger Station, 419 East Pecan street. The Freeman for sale there every Saturday and Sunday....J. W. Fenet has purchased a fine horse and buggy....Messrs. R. W. Thomas and Chas. Henry Harris are holding down business at the beautiful Smith Hotel, near the Union Passenger Station. ....The new Union Passenger Station is fast nearing completion....Wm. Smith, one of the best headwaiters in the South, is headwaiter at the Binkley Hotel, with Wm. Barr, captain of watch....Copies of this ppaer each week can be found at Messrs. J. W. Carson, Wm. Mann and Elmer Williams' handsome tonsorial parlors.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The Sterling Jubilee Singers passed through Minneapolis on their way west... Miss Abbie Mitchell opened at the Unique the week of Dec. 19 and is making a great hit....Mr. Will H. Hunt died Sunday, Dec. 12 of pneumonia.

HOW MUCH FOR BABY?

How much will you pay for baby?
  Speak up if you want to buy.
How much for that bit of sunshine
  That sparkles in his eyes?

How much apiece for his dimples?
  How much for each golden curl?
How much for that smile of luster?
  How much for those teeth of pearl?

How much for the feet that toddle
  In mischief's innocent trail?
How much for that priceless something
  That tells you he is not for sale?

—C. L. Miller, Kankakee, Ill.

HOOSIER NEGRO POET AT HIS BEST

Aaron Belford Thompson Issues New Book of Poems This Year.

A cosy five-room cottage, situated at 2109 Howard street, is the residence and property of Aaron Belford Thompson, the leading colored poet of Indiana. Here, in the early hours of morn, whilst the hum of business is still hushed by the stillness of night, this young man can be found constantly at his desk, writing rare verses which are steadily making him famous throughout the country. His latest production, "Harvest of Thoughts" (which will be sent on receipt of 60 cents), with an introduction by James Whitcomb Riley, has found its way in more than 2,000 homes throughout the country.

AARON BELFORD THOMPSON.

That Aaron Belford Thompson takes a prominent stand with the best verse writers of to-day can be readily seen by the following poem:

A PLEA TO THE MUSE.

(Copyrighted.)

O Goddess of Song, come grant a reflection!
  Unbolt the great doors of memory's wall,
And there let me enter, in garden, through courtyard,
  And view the great paintings that hang in the hall!
Then grant at your leisure some musical measure;
  My harp is untuned and inferior to thine;
So pledge me one measure, 'twill be of great pleasure—
  Perchance it might soothe this vain yearning of mine.

Then away let me ramble, 'cross brooklets, through brambles,
  'Cross moorland, through fallows, to the far distant hill,
Where the century eagle 'mong the cliffs find her hiding,
  And the night wind brings notes from the poor whippoorwill.
She took up her harp, embossed with rare jewels;
  The numberless strings all glittered like gold;
Then a bright, gleaming rainbow descended from Heaven,
  Surrounded the damsel, illuming the whole.

Her jewel decked fingers were active and nimble,
  A bracelet of rubies hung loose from her wrist;
Her dark curly locks had gold in their tresses;
  Her face was so comely, there was nothing amiss.
She scarce touched the strings ere the great harp responded;
  The music was soft, yet it echoed afar,
And the sweet chimes came back from woodland and mountain,
  And through the great hallway, whose door stood ajar.

I entered the hallway and gazed at the paintings,
  Both modern and ancient, magnificent, grand;
My eyes caught the beauty, mine ears drank the music
  That came from her harp and re-echoed the land.
And last, but not least, to the rear of the hallway,
  There hung a great painting of wonderful cost;
And the muse on her harp played a dirge sweet and solemn,
  As I gazed at my crucified Lord on the cross.

His visage, though careworn, showed love and compassion;
  Great nails pierced His hands, and likewise His feet;
Methought I could hear the wail of the women
  Descending the vale of Mt. Calvary's steep.
Then the muse touched the strings and a great song of triumph
  Rang out in the hallway ere I thought to depart,
While mine eyes cought the sight of a wonderful painting
  That brought great rapture and joy to my heart.

'Twas where He had entered the great gates of Heaven,
  And countless the angels about Him did throng;
Here the muse ceased her playingn, for she feared to attempt it,
  And she blushed when I asked her to join in the song.
As I left the great hallway the door closed behind me,
  The muse she had vanished, the music had ceased;
I awoke—'twas a dream—the rain was fast falling,
  And the wind shook my lattice, that came from the East.

MITCHELL, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

James Russell spent a few days in Louisville....Mr. and Mrs. Paul Terrell will spend the holidays in Senora, Ky., visiting relatives....Mrs. Lucy Terrell will spend the holidays in West Virginia....Roas Henson will spend Christmas with his aunt, Mrs. Frazer, at Bedford....Mr. Irvin Hughes spent Sunday in Bedford.... Rev. H. J. Thompson was called home on account of the death of Silas Johnson, his brother-in-law....Irma Bonds will spend Christmas with relatives in Indianapolis. ....The members and friends of the A. M. E. Church gave Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Thompson quite a surprise after choir practice, Friday night. Mrs. Henrietta Lewis served all present with refreshments after a social chat. Rev. Thompson will be glad to receive them again at any time....The A. M. E. Church and the Baptist Church are preparing to have Christmas trees and programs Christmas Eve....Mrs. Bettie Lewis continues quite ill, after having an operation performed for tumor....James Cooper and sister, of Terre Haute, will visit their father, Mr. Henry Cooper, Christmas....The Misses Scoat, of Louisville, Ky., will be the guests of Miss Cora Russell, Christmas....Mrs. James Knight left for Bloomington to spend the holidays with her mother.... Master Willie Cooper has not missed a day in school this session and is one of the best in school....Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cooper will spend Christmas day with Mr. George Harper and family.

THE FREEMAN AT SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

The Freeman can be had at 815 East Washington street, Neal & Brown's restaurant, the Colored Shoe Store, 1707 E. Capitol avenue, 1015 S. 17th street, at L. H. Harris' barber shop and at 305½ S. 6th street, also at 1505 S. 17th street. Don't fail to read this great journal.

THE FREEMAN AT AUSTIN, TEX.

The Freeman can be secured at 424 E. Sixth St., and 1103 Walter St.—Thomas Lashwah, Agent.

A Word to the
WISE
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The Magic will not burn or injure the hair, because the comb is never heated. The steel heating bar which irons the hair, is alone, put into the flame of the alcohol or gas heater.

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Large, Heavy, Strong and Durable. Made of copper and brass associated together and cast into one solid piece; highly polished and fully nickle plated; steel bolt which goes through the large wood handle and screws into metal end of Comb to prevent the handle from getting loose or coming off. Remember it's all in one piece Nothing to get out of order, will last a lifetime.

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Agents Wanted. T. W. TAYLOR, Howell, Mich.

When writing please mention this paper.

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GEORGE L. KNOX,
Publisher and Managing Editor.
ELWOOD C. KNOX,
Business Manager.

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1910.

Parsons, Kansas, can boast of having a Negro jailer in the person of Percy Roberts, who has proven his ability to serve that growing and progressive city in said capacity. Long may he live.

Judge Lurton's appointment to the Supreme Court bench was duly confirmed by the Senate without a dissenting voice. Verily, "the sun do move." Taft smiled, and Bryan and his party laughed. They are laughing yet. Why?

So finally it is true that Dr. Frederick A. Cook did hand out a "gold brick" concerning his "fake" discovery of the Pole. The white race even excels the Negro in that kind of business. We certainly do not want to see any "Black Frederick A. Cooks." Now tell us, did Commander Peary really reach the North Pole?

The Journal and Gide, of Norfolk, Va., complains and deplores the message, not for what it did say, but for what, in its opinion, it didn't say, upon the race question. He forgot that the President is a great statesman, and his magnaminity and largeness of heart, coupled with his desire to please the nation, compelled him to take the "let alone" route this time Give him time, he will come around all right after awhile; that is, we hope he will.

The Freeman congratulates the Rev. T. O. Fuller, principal of Howe Institute, a model school for the industrial uplift of the race. We thank the friend who sent us a marked copy of the Commercial Appeal containing the splendid illustrated account of the glorious work of the school, presented by Anna A. Brown. Hon. Mr. Fuller, the present principal, was the last Negro to serve in the Legislature of the State of North Carolina. We wish Mr. Fuller and faculty a prosperous school year.

Democratic Virginia has scored another point in favor of keeping the "red flag" floating to the breeze by placing the statue of the Confederate General Robert E. Lee in Statuary Hall at the National Capitol. General Lee wears the rebel uniform. This is enough to cause General U. S. Grant to turn over in his grave, and make the Union soldiers now living wish that they had not fought the enemy of the Union. Poor encouragement for the boys in blue. The South was whipped, but never conquered. Gentlemen, what next?

We are glad to notice the activities of Rev. Dr. L. M. Haygood, now pastor of the large and flourishing church at Los Angeles, Cal. The Reverend is earnestly engaged in helping on the good government movement in that city. Los Angeles is now in the midst of a heated municipal campaign, and Dr. Haygood is in the "hottest of the fight," standing true to race and principles. What the Lexington District lost by the taking away from them the superintendent has been Los Angeles' great gain. Dr. Haygood was one of the foremost members of the Lexington Conference and is greatly missed.

Our esteemed friend, Editor Cannady, of the Portland Oregon Advocate, is in error when he insinuates that there is a "squabble started" over the forthcoming "Negro Exposition" between Dr. Booker T. Washington and the Georgia and Chicago parties. There is none, and so far as we can see there is to be none. Those who up against the already proposed and national endorsed Booker T. Washington Exposition, will find themselves up against the proverbal "buzz saw," and will dwindle away into "inocuous desuetude." No, brother, don't be deceived, there will be no "squabble." Lets get busy for 1913 and help Dr. Booker T. Washington to make the home run for the race.

We suppose that the next census will show the race's population over fifteen millions, paying taxes upon millions of dollars worth of property and without representation either in the United States congress or state legislatures (Ohio and perhaps one or two other states excepted). Taxation without representation is unfair, unjust, undemocratic, unrepublican, and highly unbecoming a great republic like this which boasts that it is a government "of the people, by the people and for the people." Mr. Lincoln once said that "no question is settled until settled right." No fair-minded citizen would boast of a policy that discriminates a race because of color or previous condition of servitude. "Robbing Peter to pay Paul" will never do.

The Mosaic Guide, of Little Rock, Ark., make the following editorial comment on the President's message. "About the only way that he could satisfy some Negroes and have them say he is the greatest President ever would be to recommend to Congress that all white men be denied th right to hold office and be in their places, that every Negro be given 365 days to enjoy himself and a ham of meat and sack of flour every Saturday." Now, brother, what is the use of publishing such senseless verbiage, such sentimental hog-washism? There is no room in the newspaper world for "Toady" Lickspiddlers and the like. We need manly men. Better had said nothing than to talk such nonsense as the above. Brother, don't be a "clam." Be a man!

The Richmond (Va.) Planet of recent date announced a "Black Jennie Lind" to sing at one of the local churches there. Bosh! There is no "Black Jennie Lind." The wearer of the title will be ashamed of herself after awhile for being deceived by her friends who dubbed her as the "Black Jennie Lind." She is false to herself. "To thine own self be true." Young lady, be yourself. We often hear of "Black Pattis," "Black Spurgeons," "Black Sam Joneses," "Black Moodys" and "Black Sankeys," and a lot of that kind of spurious stuff that does the person thus entitled no good, but on the other hand does the race infinite harm. Don't wear such superfluous and meaningless titles. Be yourself. The world applauds an original character. History proves this.

From our Baltimore exchanges we glean the information that, notwithstanding the defeat by an overwhelming majority of votes of the Disfranchisement Amendment on November 2 last, Governor Crothers and a Mr. W. L. Marbury, who favored the adoption of the amendment, are insistent that the State of Maryland shall in some way disfranchise the bulk of the Negro citizens. Next time it is proposed to risk securing the amendment on the ownership of property; that such only shall be entitled to register and vote. We sincerely hope that that effort to discriminate against the race will also meet with defeat, as such a status is foreign to the Constitution of the United States, and contrary to the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. Shall the war amendments be nullified? Shall the victories of the Union army be dragged in the dust by the sons of the Confederacy? We hope not.

It devolves upon Richard W. Thompson, our brilliant Washington correspondant, to get the Negro press together in National convention, in our opinion, a more efficient and popular man could not have been found for that particular duty. For years Mr. Thompson has been identified and closely connected with various newspapers of the race, and has very signally served with marked ability from compositor to editor. His name is almost inseparably connected with The Freeman, he has won renown as a national writer, he is a strong thinker, an original and forcible presenter of facts and truth concerning the race, displaying at all times a most discriminating judgment highly becoming to a scholar of his rank and acquisition. We know him well, for he is an original Hoosier, educated in the public and high schools of our city. We hope he will receive a ready and kindly response from our contemporaries all over the country, and that we shall soon hear good reports of his endeavor.

Hon. eorge L. Knox, proprietor, publisher and managing editor of The Freeman, is a unique character. He has had varied experience in life, and has fought many a battle for the race and won many successes, and has made a name for himself in state and nation. Very few men of his day and time have made greater sacrifices for the good of the race, always standing true to principle, fighting or "every right with all his might," as God has given him to see and know the right. Mr. Knox is preparing his autobiography for the press, as previously announced. It will appear in neat book form and will include reminscences of slave life, recollections of the war, of men, and measures, and synopsis of some timely and effective addresses as well as account of how he has succeeded in keeping The Freeman running continuously for nearly twenty-five years. This book should meet with a ready and widespread circulation. It tells of a life well spent in the service of God, the race and the church.

We are gratified to see that Senator Cullom's proposal to ostracise the Negro from the Republican party meets with with little or no encouragement, and it is especially significant to note how little the South itself cared for the Senator's Christmas and New Year's bargain. The Chicago Record-Herald editor concludes a very thoughtful editorial in this wise:

"I voted for the constitutional amendment conferring political rights, and also for the civil rights act.

"I believe that the people of the South have been unfortunate in the way they have handled the Negro question. They have held up Negro domination as a bugaboo to frighten themselves, and have continued to vote the Democratic ticket, under the banner of white supremacy, deliberately disregarding their own best interests. It is not for me to attempt to advise them how to solve their problem.

"The Negro in the Southern States should as fully enjoy all his political and civil rights as his brethren in the Northern States."

HISTORY OF BROWNSVILLE COURT OF INQUIRY.

The following chronology for the year 1909 is given in the Brownsville case:

Act to correct the records, etc., approved March 3.

Order of War Department appointing court of inquiry, April 7.

First meeting of court of inquiry, May 4.

Court of inquiry adopts rules of procedure, May 10.

Court reports intention to study sworn statements heretofore made and proceed to Brownsville, Texas, October 26.

Court reports that by November 21 it will have completed the consideration of the evidence in the form of letters, reports, affidavits and testimony heretofore given; that after November 21 it will be ready to receive new evidence; that on November 15 it will adjourn to meet at Brownsville, afterwards to resume sessions at Washington; that the court has endeavored to locate the 165 discharged men, has established communication with 82, of which 76 wish to appear before the court as witnesses and 6 do not wish to appear; November 8.

The court expects to complete its work and submit its final report not later than April 7, 1910.—The Horizon.

Would it not be well to have ex-Senator Foraker present and qualified to represent the "boys" at this final report? No man in the country understands this case better than our distinguished friend from Ohio.

W. L. LAUDERDALE,

Dr. W. L. Lauderdale, a man of the hour who has made his way in the world. President of The Peoples Investment & Banking Co , volume of business $552,443.51. President and General Manager of The Great Southern Home Industrial Association, volume of business $1,500,000.00. Grand Supreme Chief Ruler of U. S. & D. of G. S. H. T. This financial institution, The Peoples Investment & Banking Company, has some valuable stock for sale at $5.00 per share; same has declared from 7 1-2 to 10 per cent. dividend each year. Write the President, Dr. W. L. Lauderdale, 1727 Third Ave., Birmingham, Ala.

BROWNSVILLE AGAIN.

Just as the people begin to feel that disgrace of Brownsville, Texas, was a matter of history, here it comes again, like the ghost of Banquo, to haunt the nation. A special commission has been carefully looking into the circumstances of the "shooting up" of the town by the Negro soldiers. They have conclusive evidence that the Negro soldiers did the shooting from the inside of the fort. This straw has been threshed over so many times that one is greatly surprised to find new facts concerning ancient history. So much has been found that the leading fire-eaters among Southern Congressmen announce that they will introduce a measure looking to the abolishing of the four black regiments as provided in the law creating them. This need not cause any great disturbance. So often we hear the scare-head announcements, the whistling of the gang to keep up courage. The Negro soldier is a fact. He is a part of the military arm of the nation. His valor and faithfulness has been proven on many fields, and he will continue a defender of the nation so long as the nation lasts. Why disturb the acrid Southerner in his dream of Negro destruction? We want and must have Negroes in the Naval Department. If we cannot have a black admiral, let us labor for black sailors and seamen. Negro officers in the army are coming as sure as the sun shines. The same will be true in the navy. Let the Negro leaders be something besides mere officeholders and the mouthpieces of a political machine during campaigns. Let them spend some time prying open the door of opportunities, for the race should be of more concern than the spasmodic talk of Southern Congressmen.—The Colorado Statesman.

We say as much. "Dem's our sentiments."

HIS CONGRATULATIONS.

The Rev. Mr. Brooks Lawrence, president of the Alabama State Anti-Saloon League, tendered his congratulations to the League for having kept out of politics in the recent campaign in that State. Why congratulations on this score were due the League is mystifying and misleading, for the Rev. Mr. Lawrence and all of his workers played politics for all they were worth, and the dirtiest kind of politics, too. He was himself one of the most active speakers and workers in the fight on the constitutional amendment, and there was no prominent Leaguer in Alabama who did not join heart and soul with him in the same enterprise.

The Anti-Saloon League of Alabama should give the reverend gentleman his passports and send him whence he came. As a leader he is a mistake, and as a prophet—he prophesying that Alabama would give an overwhelming majority for the amendment—a dunce. Alabama did well in throttling this pretentious, carpet-bagging, politico-preacher. Those who stood for a safe and sound State government owe to the Rev. Lawrence a whole basketful of congratulations. His methods of electioneering and campaigning did more for the cause to which he was opposed than any one north of the Mason and Dixon line can appreciate.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

H. R. Taylor, of Independence, was in the city last week on business....J. R. Butler, of Camrose, was in the city last week, and left for Didsbury to fill a position awaiting him there....Prayer meeting was held on the 15th ultimo at Mose Riley's residence, 532 Isabella street. It was held last week at Solomon Cobb's residence, 418 Kinistino avenue. Both meetings were largely attended....Louis Shoeman, of Winnipeg, son of C. J. Shoeman, of this city, arrived last week and has secured the position of timekeeper in his father's mine. His wife will arrive shortly. ....Arthur Jones was on the sick list last week....A theater party was given and chaperoned by A. J. Goode, Tuesday evening, the 21st ultimo, at the Edmonton Opera House, at which time the Summers Stock Company rendered "The Middleman" to the satisfaction of all present. Those in the party were: Mesdames Blanche Massie, G. J. Jones, Lulu Pierson, L. C. Mitchell and daughter Beulah, Messrs. J. Massie, G. J. Jones, Noy Pierson, Z. W. Mitchell and A. J. Goode....Pankey and Cook, colored comedians, appeared at the Empire last week and met with much success. This team jumped from New York to Calgary, and thence to Edmonton.... Official announcement was made last week by a syndicate of local men who will erect an eight-story Chamber of Commerce building in the early spring at Howard and Rice....The most beautiful Christmas weather in years is being experienced this year. Skating, hockey, curling, polo, tobogganing, etc., are all in full blast.... The Edmonton Hockey Club is to go to Ottawa the last of January and play with that team for the world's hockey championship....The Bradstreet's and Dun's financial agencies have both opened offices in Edmonton during the past month.... Leave all news matter, advertisements, subscriptions, changes of address, or any complaint of not receiving THE FREEMAN, etc., with Clifford C. Mitchell, the Edmonton correspondent. Call at 240 Jasper avenue East, phone 1637, or address P. O. Box 845.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

A happy New Year to all the readers of THE FREEMAN....Strother Lodge No. 3 will give an entertainment at the Phoenix Hall New Year's day and evening. All invited....Mr. Raymond Clark, of Ottumwa, Iowa, is spending the holidays in this city visiting Mrs. John Gaines and other friends and relatives....Mrs. John Gains left Thursday for Lansing, Mich., to spend the holidays with her cousin, Mrs. Sula Lucas. ....Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wyman have left for their future home in Detroit, Mich.... Mrs. A. Batt, of Allegan, Mich., is visiting in this city, the guest of Mrs. Curtis.... Master Alonzo Miller left Wednesday for Atlantic City, N. J....Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Foster and Mr. John Hill were the guests of Mrs. C. Cook Sunday....Mrs. Mary Watkins, of Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. Minnie Ferguson, of Wabash, Ind., were the guests of their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Watkins, during the holidays.... Miss A. J. Frye, of Vicksburg, is the guest of Mrs. Bessie Williams....Mrs. Sprague, Mr. A. Long and little Lulian Long spent Christmas with Mrs. C. Cook....Mr. and Mrs. James Tolliver are spending the holidays with their daughters, Mrs. D. Burns and Mrs. W. M. Burns....Miss Edessa Toles, of Saline, Mich., is visiting in this city, the guest of her mother, Mrs. W. M. Burns.

NEW ALBANY, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The loyal Republicans are not pleased with the results of the fall elections in this city and county. In New Albany it is asserted that the Republican city ticket might have been saved had the Republicans themselves been true to the nominees; surely George Strack would not have been "snowed under" had the colored voters stood by him as of yore. The defection among the Negroes was not general. About forty of them are credited with doing some quiet work for the Democratic ticket, but it must be admitted that their work was effective. It is charged that among the recalcritrants were persons not unknown to the professions of teaching, preaching and practicing medicine, all of whom are suspected of having handled a goodly sum of Democratic coin for their treachery. Those who believe in taking their politics as they do their religion, medicine and other things—"straight"—are suggesting that New Albany's best colored citizens form an organization from which the "boozers", "grafters", "bribe-takers", etc., will be carefully eliminated. It is thought that such an organization, with only reputable and reliable men at the head, will tend to place our people in a better light among the leaders of thought and morals in the community and more rapidly command the respect and recognition of the party. One of the policies suggested for the proposed organization is that in standing for the general uplift of the race and in support of worthy men and deserving enterprises, it withdraw support and patronage from the minister, doctor, barber, teacher or any man or class of colored men known to work and vote for the party that is and has been opposed to the progress of the Negro as a people. It is not the intention of the organization to interfere with the natural right of mankind to freedom of speech or political independence, but to starve out the "grafters" and subsidized sharks who, under cover, are selling the birthright of their brethren for less than the proverbial "mess of pottage" and discrediting the efforts of those who make good citizenship and honest administration of the city's affairs their basis of action. Your correspondent hopes this movement will result in more than talk; for there is a demand for reform that cannot much longer be ignored....Mrs. Mary E. Washington, 1139 Hildreth street, has been on the sick list, but is greatly improved. Her new home on the hillside is a "beauty"..... Col. Thomas H. Johnson is "making good" in the internal revenue service. He has concluded an important assignment at Lebanon, Ky. There is talk of running the colonel for a general office in the A. M. E. Church in 19'2. He would make an admirable general secretary, as his excellent work as secretary of a number of sessions of the Kentucky conference amply proves.....The arrival of a daughter is noted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Maxwell in St. Louis. Both are former residents of New Albany....New Albanians are heartily in favor of the Booker T. Washington end of the proposed semi-centenial exposition and will join with him in promoting its success when the word to move is given. We are for Louisville first, of course, as the site, but will accept the verdict of the commission before which all the advantages of this site or that must be presented and duly weighed.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Resolutions adopted by Epworth League of the M. E. Church, December 4, 1909: Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to take from our midst our beloved sister, Blanche Dixon, we do humble ourselves to His command, and be it resolved, that in the death of our sister the League has lost one of its brightest stars and a beam of sunshine and smiles. Be it resolved, that in the death of Sister Blanche Dixon the city has lost one of its best citizens, never to be forgotten. Be it further resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of our League and a copy sent to the two weekly papers. By order of the Epworth League. J. Henry Wilkinson, Lucy Coston, Thomas A. Grant. Resolution No. 2: The tribute of respect of the Willing Workers' Club of the First Baptist Church, Sabraton, W. Va. It is with much sorrow that we assemble to pay the last tribute of respect to our beloved Miss Blanche Dixon, who departed this life Wednesday evening, December 1, 1909, at 8:45 p. m. It is sad to think of the way in which he life was taken, but God chose the way, and as He chose the way for her, so will He choose it for us. She was loved by all who knew her. The pleasant smiles on her face and her kind words won the affection of every one that met her. She became a member of the Willing Workers' Club Tuesday, October 19, 1909, and was faithful in her duties. We are loath to give her up, but God in His infinite wisdom and mercy saw fit to remove her from our presence. We, the Willing Workers' Club, realize that we have lost a good, faithful member. We are thankful that when she left us it was with the love and peace of God shining in her face. To the bereaved father, brother and sisters we extend our deepest sympathy. We realize that they have lost a darling sister and daughter, but we would say to them that she is not lost, but gone before. We trust that their hearts may become inspired with the love of God, so that when they are done with their lives here on earth they may meet her in the great beyond, where they shall meet to part no more. Finally, be perfect, be of good comfort, be one one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you forever. Miss Eva Lewis, Miss Mary Lewis, Mrs. C. W. Thomas, Mrs. Etta Anderson.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Strong, 670 West Central avenue, are the proud parents of another little girl....Mr. Ellis Burton, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burton, who is attending the college at Knoxville, Tenn., has made quite a reputation as a star football player. Mr. Burton will graduate from that college next June....Rev. W. D. Carter arrived in the city last week, and will spend the holidays with his wife. ....Rev. McDonald, Providence, R. I., will take charge of Pilgrim Baptist Church next Sunday, and will preach his first sermon next Sunday morning....Mrs. B. C. Coble, white wife of a Negro porter, dropped dead last week on the steps of the Zion Presbyterian Church....On December 23 the funeral services of Mrs. Lena Raymond were held at the undertaking parlors of T. H. Lyles. The body was shipped to Jacksonville, Ill., for burial.... Mrs. Hattie Branham died at the City Hospital last Sunday. She leaves two daughters to mourn her loss....Mrs. Glenora Lewis, Carroll street, has been quite ill for some time....Mrs. Anna Shephard Green, of Omaha, Neb., is in the city, the guest of her father....Mr. and Mrs. B. Sears have moved into the house at 320 Fuller street....The West End Y. W. C. A. branch sent out several Christmas baskets to the poor and needy. Last Sunday Miss Nesta Edwards delivered an address at the vesper service, and Miss Pierce, Dayton Avenue Methodist Church, sang a solo. The rooms were full of Christmas cheer, and a large Christmas tree had been decorated by one of the ladies. On New Year's day there was a public reception. The hand-painted cards and calendars on sale in the exchange department are the work of the Ricks sisters, of Iowa....The Negroes of St. Paul have not as yet been educated up to the fact that their children should play with Negro dolls. At the various Christmas exercises each little colored girl hugged to her breast a "lily white" doll. Next Christmas we hope to see the situation changed. The Negro calendars have become very popular....Persons desiring news items to appear in THE FREEMAN will kindly phone them to Mrs. Williams, Cedar 5552, before Saturday of each week....Mr. Arthur McDonald is now employed by the Twin City Electric Company of this city....Mr. Fred D. L. Parker, student of the State University, is in Washington, D. C., visiting. ....Mr. Theo. Van Praag, State "U," is in Chicago, Ill., visiting relatives.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jackson, of Myrtle avenue, entertained at dinner Chrismas in honor of Miss Alice Woods, of Mt. Vernon, and Miss Lizzie Goins, of Wilberforce, and the evening was spent in music. Around the table were Mrs. Hattie Harper and daughter Hazel, Mrs. Sadie Morrison and son Percy, Miss Lauretta Sellers, Miss Woods, Miss Goins, William Saunders, Le Henry Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Charikes Jackson....Mr. and Mrs. James are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Brown in Cleveland, Ohio. ....Mrs. Will Collins, Mrs. Joseph Jones, Mrs. Charles Lincoln, Mrs. Burges and Mrs. Jim Fagan are on the sick list.... The entertainment given by the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the St. Augustine Episcopal Mission was well attended Wednesday evening....The infant sons of Mr. and Mrs. Weatherspoon are very ill....Mr. Lee Porter, Jr., is seriously ill at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Porter, of West Myrtle avenue. ....Dr. C. A. Pettiford and Richard Boggess took dinner with William Saunders Sunday....Mr. and Mrs. Horace Martin have completed their new lodging house at 22 Chestnut street....Miss Lena Ford, who is attending Wilberforce University, was the guest of her mother during the holidays....Dr. and Mrs. F. H. Simpson spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. George Simpson, of Akron.

FRENCH LICK, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. Alice Garnett, of Chicago, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Clarence Stockdale....Miss Lenora Wolkfork, of Louisville, is the guest of Miss Mattie Williams. ....Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the guests of their aunt, Mrs. Lewis Shockincy.... Mrs. Cook is the guest of her son John. ....Mrs. Jennie Williard, of Louisville, is the guest of Mrs. Ike Loyd....Messrs. Loyd, Stockdale and Miller entertained at dinner Christmas day at the home of Mrs. Loyd. The house was artistically decorated and covers were laid for ten. Those present were Miss Maggie Stockdale, Miss Josie Loyd, Mrs. W. O. Martin, Mrs. Alice Garnett of Chicago, Mrs. William Miller, William Watts, Clarence Stockdale, William Miller, Mr. Phelps of Paoli, Ike Loyd and Dan Richards.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Atlantic City's most prominent hotel proprietor and leading politician, W. Solon Stafford, after a lengthy illness, died at his Philadelphia residence, December 19. News of his death caused a sensation throughout the city because of the prominence of the deceased in business and political circles. Mr. Stafford's two sons, Shirley and George Stafford, will look after his vast real estate interests.... Saturday night the Emanuel Presbyterian Church, 1907 Arctic avenue, Rev. E. A. Johnson, pastor, held their Christmas treat for the children. Each child received a box of candy, orange and ice cream and cake. The attendance was quite large, and the affair reflected much credit on the teachers and friends of the work....Santa Claus, before returning to the land of ice and snow, held a public reception Monday night at St. James Church, New York and Arctic avenues, Rev. A. L. Murray, pastor, at which time each cild received a suitable present and a box of candy. Tuesday night he was the guest of honor at Asbury, Michigan and Baltic. Rev. F. J. Handy, pastor, and on Wednesday and Thursday nights he honored the children of the Third Baptist, North Michigan avenue, Rev. Brooks, pastor, and Mount Olive, 2009½ Arctic avenue, Rev. W. Hebron, pastor. The A. E. Edwards Company, 1908 Arctic avenue, furnished the candy for the children.... The Royal Palace, Marlborough, Blenheim, St. Charles, Brighton, Traymore, Haddon Hall and Shelburne entertained many guests during yuletide. The Marlborough alone accommodated 1,500.... Montgomery and Stone, in "Old Town," is the main Christmas attraction at the theaters....The mock conference at Zion Church, 15 North Ohio avenue, was a grand success. Mrs. Annie Blackwell was the presiding bishop. Mrs. E. L. Dangerfield, Mrs. Nora Robinson and Mrs. Joseph McGuinn were the presiding elders. Several members of the church acted as ministers. Much credit is due the entire committee and the pastor, Rev. John F. Moreland....The piano contest of the public schools has closed, and Indiana avenue pupils won the $400 Esty piano. They polled over 72,000 votes....Capt. Charles Holland, of the Atlantic City Patriarchie, spent a few days in Washington, D. C., and Lincoln, Md., looking over the valuable lots of the Lincoln Land and Improvement Company of Washington, D. C.

DES MOINES, IA.

Special to THE FREEMAN:

Mr. and Mrs. John Jackson entertained a few intimate friends at dinner Christmas day....Mr. and Mrs. John Wilkison entertained Mr. and Mrs. Allrus Brown, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Sing Wilkison, Mrs. Addie Clark, Mr. Will Wilkison, Mr. Crum Herald and Miss Brazille at an elegant five-course dinner, Sunday, at 6 o'clock....The Christmas banquet given by North Star No. 2 was largely attended and was a financial and social success....Mr. Charles Schell was taken to the Mehtodist Hospital Sunday evening. He is reported as being in a critical condition....Mr. Prince McCain, who has been very ill for several weeks, is improving. ....Mrs. Emma Hayes entertained Mr. and Allrus Brown, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith and Mr. Walter Louis at dinner Chistmas day....Miss Ada Hyde, a student attending college at Iowa City, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Hyde....Mrs. Mary Cooper, of East Fifteenth street, entertained at dinner Christmas Mrs. Purgueson, Mr. Grant Purgueson, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Brown and her son, Mr. George Cooper....Mr. and Mrs. Merel Logan entertained Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Miss Dora Scott, Mrs. Taylor Starks and sister, Mr. Jessie Jones and other friends Christmas eve....Mr. and Mrs. William Shackleford will entertain this week at a house party in honor of her sisters, the Misses Lee, and other friends. The house-warming will close by keeping open house on New Year's day....The Hawkeye Lodge, I. B. P. O. E. W., No. 160, will install the recently elected officers at a public installation Thursday at S. P. A. M. E. Church....The revival meeting at the Maple Street Baptist Church, which has been successful, was discontinued until after the holidays. ....A fine boy weighing 12 pounds was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bush last Thursday morning. Mother and child are doing well.

BOWLING GREEN, KY.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The young men of the B. G. Academy have organized a Y. M. C. A. Everybody is invited. The association meets every Sunday afternoon f:om 2r30 to 3:30 o'clock. The subject for Sunday will be the advisability of pledges. All visitors have the privilege to discuss the subject. ....Rev. R. L. Hyde, D. D., president of the B. G. Academy, has returned from his vacation restored to his health. He reports having a good time....Mrs. Heater, on third street, had a host of visitors during the Christmas holidays, including her niece, Miss Dunlop, from Fisk University, and two young ladies from Clarksville, Tenn., her former home....Any news of local interest, please notify W. E. Houston....Mr. Willie Nelson, son of Mr. William Nelson, is seriously ill at his home on Chestnut street....Houston, Birmingham's shortstop, sends Christmas greetings to all the boys, especially the Cubs and Birmingham Giants and also Pensacola and Mobile boys.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Mr. Willard Kinner entertained at whist Christmas evening, and the affair was a grand social success. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Kinner, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kinner, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Long and Messrs. Claude Hall, Arthur Chinn, Carl Breckinridge, Frank Roberts, Hollis Kinner, Julius Kinner and Thomas Dorsey. All present gave expressions of a most delightful time.

The name of Cornelius W. McDougald has been announced by Judge Whitman, lately elected district attorney for the county of New York, as one of the assistants under the fusion administration for four years, beginning January 1. McDougald is a young colored lawyer who has very rapidly come to the front in New York during the last few years. His selection by Judge Whitman was secured through the influence of Hon. Charles W. Anderson, collector of internal revenue, and other influences of that character.

FREEMAN CHRISTMAS TREE

Concluded from Page One.

constructive labors for the uplift of the musical life of the Negro in America.

• • •

Bishops H. M. Turner, W. J. Gaines, C. S. Smith, E. W. Lampton and Williams—A rod for another whack at the Interstate Commerce Commission on the "jim-crow" car business.

• • •

Bishop G. W. Clinton—A certificate of membership on the board in charge of the Anna T. Jeanes Fund and a heavy sale for his great book, "Christianity Under the Searchlight."

• • •

Rev. John F. Hurst—An A. M. E. bishopric; ditto Revs. D. P. Roberts, T. W. Henderson, L. H. Reynolds, J. M. Conner and one hundred other eminent divines of that denomination.

• • •

Col. John R. Marshall, W. D. Johnson, James H. Lott, Charles A. Cottrill, H. T. Eubanks, A. W. G. Sango, Nelson Crews and five hundred others—A $4,000 berth at the nation's capital.

• • •

R. W. Thompson—A place on the 1913 Exposition Commission of seven, recommesded by President Taft, and a big convention of the National Negro Press Association next August.

• • •

Revs. S. L. Corrothers, W. H. Chambers, J. B. Colbert, W. A. Ray, R. S. Rives, Adam Wakefield, E. H. Curry and others of like prominence—A bishopric in the A. M. E. Zion Church.

• • •

N. B. Dodson—Orders for his excellent syndicate matter from 500 Negro publications and a staff of salaried writers to furnish the "copy" to make his service an effective Negro Associated Press.

• • •

W. M. Alexander—A bunch of distinctive Negro names for the secret orders that have been barred out of the use of the titles claimed by white fraternities, with the Mosaic Templars leading the list.

• • •

Harry S. Cummings, J. H. Murphy, H. E. Macbeth, Harry T. Pratt, G. A. Watty and others—A decoration of honor for yeoman service in defeating the Straus disfranchising amendment in Maryland.

• • •

Major R. R. Moton—A sympathetic handshake from President W. P. Thirkield, of Howard University, in commendation of his enthusiastic support of the musical value of the folk-songs of the Negro race.

• • •

Miss Nannie H. Burroughs—One thousand sprightly young women, to be converted into expert cooks, laundresses, milliners, dressmakers and housekeepers, at her helpful National Training School in Lincoln, D. C.

• • •

Secretaries J. E. Moorland and Lewis E. Johnson—A $40,000 purse from John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie and Pierpont Morgan, to complete and furnish the race's model $100,000 Y. M. C. A. building at Washington.

• • •

Mrs. Lillian Thomas Fox, Miss J. Sommers Young, Miss Daneva Donnell, Mrs. Fannie Barrier Williams and Mrs. J. Silone Yates—More encouragement from the race in their effort to put forth literature that will indicate the journalistic power of our women.

Additional Stage News on Page Six.

NEW YORK CITY AND C. V. B. A. NOTES.

By Harry A. Brown.

The Marshalls are the hit of the show at Little Falls, N. Y., this week.

* * *

The new piano is quite an acquisition to the C. V. B. A. headquarters.

* * *

The Alpha Comedy Four are at Plainfield, N. Y., week of December 27th.

* * *

On our sick list are Dan Frazer and Arthur Wilson, better known as "Dooley."

* * *

The Brittons are head-liners on the bills of the big eastern theaters. How's that?

* * *

Miss Sutton, of Jones and Sutton, is concalescent after a sever operation in the New York Hospital.

* * *

Sam Shelton is recovering from a short illness, and will be able to take up his professional work in a short time.

* * *

Little Johnnie Jones, of Jones and Sutton, opened at the Crescent Theater, Brooklyn, December 27, 1909. Single.

* * *

Every Thursday afternoon, from 5 to 11, all ladies are invited to call at the C. V. B. A. and inspect the headquarters.

* * *

Harry Brown, of Brown and Hodge, was at the C. V. B. A. last night. He left for the East this morning to be gone two weeks.

* * *

James Burrough and wife have severed their connection with the Smart Set Company. James walked into headquarters this morning looking like a two-year-old.

* * *

Chas Foster, better known as "Bass Foster," the celebrated baso profonda, has closed with the Bert Williams Company. He will leave for Florida about January 9, 1910.

* * *

Dame rumor has it that there will be another big show next season. Hurtis and Seamon, managers; staring George Walker, Ada Overton Walker and John Rucker.

* * *

Members of C. V. B. A. with open time are Globe Comedy Four, Davis and Walker, The [illegible], Harper and Smith, Whorl [illegible] Smith and Tom Fletcher.

* * *

The Cameo Kixley Quartette, Messrs. W. H. Tucker, Zeb Bludsoe, Sam Baker and James Slater, are doing well with the Dusten Forman Company at the Hackett Theater.

* * *

There is a new colored theater in New York, the Crescent, promoted by Thos. Johnson, Tom Fletcher opened the house December [illegible]. C. V. B. A. is booking the acts.

* * *

Bro. [illegible] is the photographer of the C. V. B. A. and any member can get a picture of the [illegible] all of the association by sending [illegible] cents to the C. V. B. A. headquarters.

* * *

Brother [illegible] is hustling on our special program; he is with the association heart and soul. If every member was as interested in the C. V. B. A. as [illegible] their would be money to burn in our treasury.

* * *

[illegible] Brown, late of Bert Williams Company, is in town. He is getting together [illegible] male performers for a long [illegible]. The boys think Tom Brown to [illegible] be with any show unless he is [illegible]. Facts prove this.

* * *

The Kemps have returned from a successful trip to the coast on the Orpheum, Kohl and Castle time. Bob wishes to be remembered to the people of Indianapolis, and those that made his stay there a pleasure.

* * *

Brownie and Hodges are to play [illegible] more weeks then they will rest for the balance of the season. Harry Brown [illegible] attend to rehearsing and managing [illegible] several acts which he is putting into vaudeville, five in number.

* * *

Here is a nice little thing ta[illegible] the Keystone and published by [illegible] Johnson:

The Frogs upon a summer da[illegible]
From their pond they strayed aw[illegible]
Met a crowd that numbered [illegible]
It must of been thme vaudivillians [illegible]

* * *

The Dixie Serenaders are at Proctor's Theater, Albany, this week. This act is under the management of President Leon Williams and is booked solid on the [illegible] and P. circuit. Assisting Mr. Williams are G. W Bennett, Chas. Williams, Harry Haynes, Beulah Hill and Ma[illegible] Williams.

* * *

John W. Cooper, wo[illegible] premier colored ventriloquist, having [illegible] finished twenty odd weeks on the Gurley circuit through, Nova Scotia and New England, opens on Sheedy circuit at Columbia Theater, Attleboro, Mass., week of December 27th. Regards to the Richard and Pringle bunch and Sylvester Russell.

* * *

All the music to be used at our ball on January 28, 1910, at Madison Square Garden, will be by colored composers and played by colored orchestra [illegible] written especially for that oc[illegible] such famous authors as C[illegible] Smith, J. Lubrie Hill, Scott Joplin, [illegible] Vodery, W. H. Carl, W. Marion [illegible] Tom Lemonier, Frank Clamont [illegible] Bryan.

* * *

I had one enjoyable [illegible] the C. V. B. A. There was [illegible] and pool, and there was Bob Slater, Leon Williams, Joe. Britton, [illegible] Nicholas, William Ball, W[illegible] Norris, Tom Fletcher, Bert Murph[illegible], Johnnie Jones, Frank Clearmont, A[illegible] Jackson, Harry Jackson, George Hamilton and Tom Cross. When ever you come to New York it will do you good to go to our headquarters, and there enjoy yourself.

* * *

Clermonto L. Mine would like to know why Lash Gidson don't get a finish of his own. Don't he know when he was jumping from "burg" to "burg" with his big ministrels and Dixie Combinations that they were useing the cornet and bass-drum finish and w[illegible]. You may get a chance to play s[illegible] the good houses if you would get something original. We used this number at Tony Pastor five years ago, also on Keith, Proctor and the Pacific coast circ[illegible] and still playing the same finale [illegible] always working. Have I not trea[illegible] nice—eh? Shame on you.

* * *

We, the me[illegible] heartily thank Mr. Sylvester Russ[illegible] of The Freeman, for his criticis[illegible] C. V. B. A. He has struck ou[illegible] and we wish that every perform[illegible] read this article and do what [illegible] Russell says, and if those that are [illegible] members will know our full in[illegible] president, Lean Williams, re[illegible] article to the members, and the[illegible] it to a man, and to you, Mr. Ru[illegible] I personally wish to add, as a [illegible] for the paper you represent, [illegible] can not remember of meeting [illegible] can safely say that the performe[illegible] showman at large has just begun [illegible] that your writings are fair a[illegible] as the time passes your work will be better understood and you can style yourself America's foremost colored stage critic.

THE BEST ISSUE.

Maissa, Ill., Dec. 27, 1909.

Dear Sir—I received your letter and was more than pleased to hear from you. I also received the Christmas number, and I think that it is the best Christmas number that has ever been issued. I am sending you stamps to pay for copies sent me of December 25th. Trusting next week's copies are all O. K.

Yours truly,
CHARLES BUCHUM.
Care Lowery and Morgan Ministrel.

PEKIN THEATER, SAVANNAH, GA.

The house is having an extra good run since the opening day. Miss Theresa Burroughs, the dainty soubrette, is rapturously encored at eevry performance. Her magnetic voice and ability to captivate an audience that highly appreciates artists who are capable of producing the effect that has a tendency to ennoble the profession brings prestige to her class. Malloy and Harkum's work is improving to a degree that their service is in demand. They are now booked for a number of weeks at the Air Dome, at Jacksonville, Fla. Glenn and Fisher, in their specialty work, and Madam Margaret Scott, who was a headliner at the Air Dome, are at the Pekin for a number of weeks. Prof. Miller's orchestra of six pieces has been engaged to do the orchestra work for this first-class house. The other acts are going big, and the Afro-Americans of Savannah are appreciating this new project in a tangible way.

WILLIAM BENBOW'S ALABAMA CHOCOLATE DROPS COMPANY.

The company is all preparing for a big Christmas show. We have a brass band of ten pieces under the management of Prof. L. J. Willis, who will open with the show in the next stand, which is Hedland, Ala. Everywhere this show has played it has left thousands of friends, and if the show should play a return engagement every town will be an S. R. O. stand. Wm. Benbow and Doc Orley, our managers, made a flying trip to Jacksonville, Fla., on business. Mr. Benbow wishes a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all in and out of the profession, and says "Hello" to Paul Carter, Morgan Prince, Sam Davis and "Poor Boy's" bunch, Atlanta.

JOHN P. JACKSON IN THE SOUTHERN CIRCUIT.

John P. Jackson, alias Charles D. Barber, of Indianapolis, Ind., formerly a member of "The Red Moon" Company, season of 1909-10, resigned after six weeks with the company, and has decided to go into vaudeville. He is touring the South for the winter, over the Southern Circuit, and is now at the Idle Hour Theater, Petersburg, Va., where he is quite a favorite. He is using this week "Garden of Roses," "My Old Lady," "Cannibal Love," and last, but not least, "Exit." His wife, Eva St. Claire Jackson, of Cambridge, Md., is directing the orchestra, and is a wonder among her sex. She is using as overtures this week "Seguidilla," "Medley of Sunny South Melodies," "Great Divide," and her favorite, "Cascade Rag." Jackson sends regards to the Messrs. Knox and all friends in and out of the profession and will visit dear old Dehomey in the spring.

"STRAIGHT DOPE FROM THE WILD AND WOOLLY WEST."

Owing to the fact that several professional friends, as well as the non-professional (including Mr. Juli Jones), are wondering and asking one another the question, "Where are the people that left Chicago to represent the Big Dixieland Spectacle out at the Seattle fair?" As I was The Freeman correspondent during the fair, I think it my duty to answer, to the best of my ability, and in as few words as possible.

When President Taft pressed the button, [illegible] 1909, the big Dixieland spectacle had an enrollment of about one hundred performers and musicians. On the day of September 28th Messrs Culligar and Lacy engaged eighteen of the members and organized a Nashville Students Company. Early Friday morning, November 26th, I read in the Seattle Daily Times where ten members of the Dixieland Negro spectacle were stranded [illegible] left in Seattle without money, food [illegible] employment. The colored people of [illegible] city were preparing to give them a [illegible] fit.

[illegible] think Mr. Juli Jones is mistaken [illegible] none have arrived into Chicago yet, [illegible] I am positive that at least five are in [illegible] "windy" city because I have had [illegible] ters from them. I almost forgot to mention that the ghost only failed to walk three times, and those that are stranded must undoubtedly be the joy riders and spendthrifts. Now, dear reader, you will please bear in mind that it is impossible for a Freeman correspondent in Chicago to know where and when a person arrives, for Chicago is much larger than the little village down in Mississippi where Mr. Juli Jones was born, and no doubt you will agree with me when I say that somebody has falsified. Yours very truly,

ARTHUR L. PRINCE.

THE OLD AND THE NEW YEAR IN THE PROFESSION.

Cincinnati, Dec. 28, 1909.

My Dear Friend Elwood—As we observe the imaginary line of the old and new year, the former, with its vast number of strange and unexpected incidents, has brought sorrow to some and joy to others; a line that in a few days will be nothing more than history to us. And while we are looking into the shadows of the dismal past let us recount some of our blessings and friends that have been with us during the past year, and are with us now.

The opening of the two colored vaudeville picture houses has given us the opportunity of seeing a large number of the old time performers and a lot of new ones just breaking in, some good, some better and some worse—quite a few worse. Still we can hardly expect head-liners for the salaries that are paid on the circuit that books them, yet there are a number of them that I have seen here this year that should be getting more money. A few I will mention, which are as follows: Stewart and Green, The Griffin Sisters, Tyler and James and Brooks and Brown, who are playing a return engagement at the Gaither this week, also Miss La Belle Glenn, an exceedingly talented young lady.

Any of these performers are good enough for the best vaudeville houses in this city. Some of them have been in constant demand for six or eight weeks, and it will not be many seasons before some of these people will be on the larger circuit.

Miss Glenn is playing a return engagement at the Gaither, and she is drawing better than her first visit. Among our visitors today was our old favorite, George Williams, of the old team of Smart and Williams, he is looking well and is booked at one of the local houses.

Our friend Jack Johnson, the champion heavy weight pugilist of the world, announced since he has been champion that if he was to fight Jeffries he would like to see a colored man referee. We have seconded his motion and amended it by placing in nomination one of the best-known colored sporting men in the country, Mr. Ed. Gaither, who is known to be honest, square and upright—too brave to cheat and too generous to steal—who is respected by all, both white and black, and enjoys the reputation of being a true sport and a lover of the manly art. This opportunity may not come again, so let us boost it along.

We have just been looking over your Christmas edition of The Freeman and a vote was taken by all the patrons of the Turf who seen it and it was elected the best race paper that comes in our midst. But everybody seemed to be surprised to find such little news from this locality, so I promised all that we would have a few notes hereafter if I had to do it myself, without permission. While writing this our old friends, Detectives Dick Reed and Frank Hall, came in and sent their best to their friends with The Freeman. They have got the habit also.

408 W. Fifth street. JOHN H. CLARK.

THE PROFESSION AT MILWAUKEE, WIS.

By P. J. Cooper.

Mrs. Lillian Clark Bradford, young widow of the late Harry Bradford, wishes to thank her friends through the columns of The Freeman for their hospitality toward her during her visit in Milwaukee and other cities, as she set sail for her home, 230 W. Forty-first street, New York City. Fidler and Shelton opened in Madison, wis., last Monday. Mrs. Maud Shelton will accompany her husband to the coast.

Mrs. Saint Suttles was the head-liner at the Enterprise Building last week, and was accompanied by Miss Mollie Doty. They were a scream and was the only colored people on the bill. The entertainment was given by the Electric Railway Employes' Association.

The Cosmopolitan Club tendered a smoker to their many friends last week, with Messrs Fidler and Shelton as honored guests. Mr. Fidler sang his favorite song, accompanied by Mr. Shelton, entitled "Come After Breakfast." Mr. Shelton gave a short but interesting talk on the necessity of organizing, and told a few of his funf stories, which brought down the house. The club is planning for a big Easter concert and ball. The officers are as follows: Cpt. L. C. Valle, president; P. J. Cooper, vice-president; R. F. Reed, treasurer; C. Simons, secretary; C. Coleman, assistant secretary; Geo. Adams, sentinel.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Young request the pleasure of your company on Friday evening, December 31st inst, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the birth of their daughter, Eleanora, at Young's Hotel on Cedar street.

* * *

Rockwell's Sunny South Company spent Christmas at Middletown, N. Y. They certainly had a fine time and there were 225 presents exchanged. Mr. H. B. Washington, our orchestra leader, deals in all kinds of violins, and has two violins that are worth \$500. Cliff Brooks, Robert Edmonds and Hentry Mitchell are still celebrating Christmas. Sadie Pewee has been very sick and expects to close with the company in a few weeks, when she will go to her home and have an operation performed. Our band is still rendering choice selections at noon, and is composed of the following men: H. B. Washington, trombone; Clark Goodley, tuba; Pewee Williams, barytone; Robert Edmonds, alto; Ed. Fox, cornet and band leader; Louis Beford, eb cornet; Geo. Thomas, first cornet; Alex. Rogers, bass drum; Tip Saunders, snare-drum, and Cliff Brooks, cymbals.

FOUND IN THE XMAS GRAB BAG.

By Marsh.

Where is Gus Hall?

* * *

George W. Walker—An early restoration to health.

* * *

Miss Abbie Mitchell—A bouquet of "The Red, Red Rose."

* * *

Miss Carita Day—A star role in a high-grade musical comedy.

* * *

Bert A. Williams—A date at Chase's Theater, in Washington.

* * *

Howard Bell—The Christmas bells are ringing home, sweet home, for you.

* * *

Billy McClain has found himself to be a successful prize-fight manager.

* * *

J. Ed Green managing a dozen or more troupes and playhouses with much success.

* * *

Miss Leona Marshall has accepted as a Christmas gift the title of "Beauty Doctor."

* * *

Clarence Cameron White—A monster reception when he lands from the other side.

* * *

Sherman Coats—The man with the hats, who knows what a piano needs in ragdom.

* * *

Lulu Coates—Nothing Jewish about the Watermelon Trust Company—everything in color.

* * *

John P. Jackson to Bob Cole: "I am almost sure I can come back home most any time."

* * *

Ruby Shelton placed at the head of a big comic opera company, with Fiddler as co-star.

* * *

Harry Fiddler, of Fiddler and Shelton, found a position as manager of a hotel open to him.

* * *

Fidler and Shelton—A play that will make them the Montgomery and Stone of the Negro stage.

* * *

Frank Fowler Brown has a red feather in his cap, and some one says he also has a frog in his throat.

* * *

S. Tutt Whitney has received that large basket of lemons that John J. Nolan shipped to him some weeks ago.

* * *

Robert T. Motts a chain of theaters, owned and controlled by him, but only one of them named "The Pekin."

* * *

James Grundy and a nice ten-pound cat "fish" and a little Gordon, for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

* * *

Owners and managers are going to name their playhouses something else besides Pekin, maybe, in the sweet bye and bye.

* * *

Sylvester Russell—A theatrical magazine, with headquarters in New York, with full power to tell the truth without fear or favor.

* * *

William McCabe: "We have your carload of Christmas Freemans about ready for traveling. Here's lifting a glass of eggnog to you."

* * *

Sam Lucas: "I may be getting along in age, but don't you think I am pretty nimble yet, and can show the younger set a thing or two?"

* * *

Mr. S. H. Dudley has found a large package among the numerous Christmas gifts that he received, with a label of very foreign spelling—"Gordon's"—keep dry—or just "dry goods."

* * *

P. G. Lowery: "Here's hoping success t othe lucky fair dames of the North, East, South and West, and Lowery and Morgan's Mighty Minstrels."

* * *

We found "Mr. Lode of Koal" speaking to "His Honor, the Barber," under the rays of "The Red Moon," on Christmas Eve, near The Freeman office.

* * *

Bert A. Williams found in his bandbox plenty of imitations by white actors in high-class vaudeville of "Mr. Bert A. Williams singing his latest song success."

* * *

Billy Cumby and Richard Mathews write us to inform us that their song entitled "Nobody but the Gin Fizz Man" is making quite a hit in Charleston, W. Va., and we suppose that it has and always will make a hit most anywhere.

* * *

Bob Cole has been dreaming of good old Georgia watermelons and well-fried chicken, and he had results from his dream. Yesterday morning he arose, only to find in his half hose a moulded pork chop and a bit of cold mush, neatly wrapped up.

* * *

Andrew Tribbles and Boots Allen found a pair of boxing gloves in their stockings. They also looked for a purse, but none could be found; finally they decided to fight, anyhow, and Andrew won, for he declared that he thought any man a coward who would whip a "woman."

* * *

Fannie Wise, one of the principals of "The Red Moon" company, found a Teddy bear in her Christmas box that was weeping because he thought the red moon was bleeding. Miss Wise, caressing the little brown bear, told him to have no fear, for she would take good care of the "Bleeding Moon," and is so doing, grandly.

* * *

Homer Tutt has "dropped into poetry" here of late. After attending the deathbed of an old-timer, he returned home only to write the following after Dame Muse had haunted him for several hours:

"He caught a little cold —
That was all—
So the neighbors sadly said
As they gathered round his bed,
When they learned that he was dead:
He caught a little cold—
That was all."

CARTER'S ORIGINAL CAROLINIAN JUBILEE COMPANY.

W. R. Carter, Manager of the Carter's Original Carolinian Jubilee Company.

The company, Mrs. B. Wilson, Mrs. Gertrude Frazer, J. R. Douglas, Silas Frazier and J. R. Manning, wishes all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and we sincerely hope that we shall all read of each other again next Christmas, 1910. This Company has retained the same members, with but one change, in five years.

Mr. Silas Frazier and N. R. Carter have been managing the Virginian Warblers and Georgia Jubilee Singers with much success, and have quite a long season for next year already booked. Would be pleased to hear from any musical talent or a good elocutionist. Address W. R. Carter, 3133 Wabash avenue, Chicago.

THE LATEST DEAL IN SOUTHERN DRAMA.

By Sylvester Russell.

Franklin Fyles has given us a startle as the latest insignia of old time prejudice, and of a kind that will not stand even if he is a modern critic of present day dramatic performances. He has scoffed at and defamed the darker individuals of his own blood and country to uphold the taint of whiter beings by a method of vindication less truthful than pacific of a racial situation that is not quite presentable enough for history, and far less respectable to be presented in a drama if it is to be applied to the respectability of the white race of America.

In the first place, it is not animalism that sends the Negro of the South to the stake to be burned alive, and if Mr. Fyles is to bring this style of matter up as an analytic solution of a play by Edward Sheldon entitled "The Nigger," recently produced at the new theater in New York City, the public can only be able to look for a solution in the play itself, and not by Fyles's report of a problem that is no problem at all, but a story of what all honest writers speak of as the true gospel of unhidden kindredship as a mystery. The mystery of it all is centered in the inevitable passion of the white man's guilt, and the white woman, who, if she wants a black man, will sacrifice his life in shielding her own reputation to get him. Franklin Fyles, in knowing this too well, is unloyal in his contention to shield the white race by the bogus wilful falsehoods which prejudice had forced him to reveal of his own character. Personally, Fyles is a great critic of the drama, a verdict which brings less excuse for his abridgment of what is real in the falsity of some of his expressions.

The dark days of slavery and the white man's animal nature, which Fyles has so accidently depicted to exonerate the fair birds of pink-cheeked humanity—or in the cheek of humanity (?)—is only a source of comment. And if humanity has cheek, does it not stand that a black man's argument in his own newspaper is just as good as a white man's assumption of paradise in which Fyles has caused him to feel further humiliated.

And the drama, "The Nigger," don't mention it. The day of repentance is at hand, and, perhaps, the last of a series of gloomy racial dramas will soon be over.

If a gill of black blood makes a man a nigger, and a nigger not human, but an animal, we are apt to have a lot more of whiter animals running around alive with yellow wooly hair before the next generation, until at last general amalgamation, but in a more respectable way, will set in to quell the fury. And America differs from no other country in the plausable contention that human passion mixes the races, and as the drama develops in furthering the true story, as it is today, so will the passions of the people hurry amalgamation. After remarks of written comment were over then Franklin Fyles reviewed the characters of the play. He paints all the white pictures dark and the black pictures white, according to the amount of white mourners who were waiting to read after Fyles and bow at the anxious seat to pray for the day when there will be no more real niggers, black or white, to disturb their rest or make their willing natures unwilling to succomb to brutish passions of love and feeling for the dear black people whom they pretend to dispise.

And now for the drama, well not the drama, but the playwright, whom white men, it would seem, have cause to dispise—with Mr. Fyles as the dispiser. When the New Theater opened there was a perfect bedlam among the nice colored people of New York City—nor was their contention unreasonable. Without entering into any controversy at all regarding the play, there is but one conclusion regarding its name, and that is that the name of "Nigger" was ill-chosen, insulting and harmful to the colored race. Edward Sheldon had written the play for money, and money only. He probably cared not for fame, but in his pursuit for something to attract the public's mind and cause a rush to the theater he besought to improve upon the Negro question as a theme and then conjure the people to the play by a name that would naturally excite both the intelligent as well as the illiterate prejudiced masses of white people and bring them together into one strange compact band of seekers of curiosity. To see a suggestive problem solved of a people they pretend to hate the most, but love the best of all races in creation, baffled by the conditions of slavery's close communion with the masters who tarnished society, is something more true than wonderful for any human being to see and grasp at.

But there would be no use of a protest. We have had enough of that, and the best disposition to make of things which appear on the stage in this modern day of salvation, to insult the Negro, is to ignore them entirely, and the sentiment itself will, as it has ever done, bring pity and succor to the souls of the wounded in heart from the love fountain of the most human saints of mortals of the earth.

Mr. Sheldon knew well enough that the title of "Nigger" would be an insult to the colored race and a hatred breeder to the nation, but in his craving pursuit for money he cared not for the harm that would be done, nor the blemish he further placed upon a country that is burdened with the taint of humanity as a color sickness.

'Tis the light which fades,
That comes and goes with flickering charm—
'Tis the poet that shades
The color of "Do thyself no harm."

'Tis the sun that sines,
To dry the tears of a rainy day—
But the Leopard he pines,
To seek to devour a human prey.

'Tis a slight reward
When strong men flay a weaker race—
But the miracles of God
No human power can e'er erace.

SHEFFIELD, ALA.

The Sheffield High School held its closing exercises on Wednesday night, December 23. The program rendered was grand. ....Prof. J. B. Bonner and the board of trustees are arranging for the construction of a new school building, on which the board hopes to begin work in a few days....Mr. William Moore's little three-year-old son was burned to death on December 22....Mr. J. W. Thompson left Saturday for Columbia, Tenn., to spend Christmas holidays with relatives....Mrs. C. W. Wilson has returned home from Birmingham, Ala....Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lytle spent Christmas in Memphis, Tenn. ....Mr. Ernest Hays spent Saturday and Sunday in Sheffield with special friends... I am very grateful to the readers of The Freeman for their liberal patronage for the year 1909, and hope to have your liberal patronage for 1910.

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A HISTORIC ACCOUNT OF SYLVESTER RUSSELL.

Abreviated Sketch of the Famous Stage Critic, Domestic Poet, Common Philosopher, Retired Singer.

By William Henry Davis. (Kid Davis of Boston, Mass.)

In compliance with the request of many FREEMAN readers, and in deference due to his long service as a public writer on this newspaper, and more especially for the benefit of the younger school of actors, I have accepted of the invitation to give a sketch of my friend Mr. Russell's career.

Sylvester Russell was born in Orange, N. J. His christian name is Harvey Eli Russell, the name of his father and grandfather, but the second son, as his older and only brother, is William H. Russell, once a popular boxing athelete who was persuaded by Sylvester not to be a prize fighter. He has two younger half-sisters, children of his step-father Joseph Holt, of Alabama, his own father having been burned to death two weeks before he (Sylvester) was born. His grandmother, on his father's side, was from two close bred Indian stocks of the Pegnot tribe of East Hampton, Conn., where his well-to-do cousin, Frank Stedman, a bell maker by trade, and his aged aunt, Miss Abbie Russell, now reside. His mother was the grand daughter of old Aunt Jane Hoagland, a remarkably intelligent old lady who was known as the most devout christian of her time throughout the State of New Jersey. Her word was law, and she was also a great singer, unsurpassed and heard above all in religious meetings; she was a handsome mulatto, with smooth gray hair, and her grandfather was an Irish-American highly respected farmer. Mr. Russell's grandmother was also a singer in church choirs and sang songs to him at the age of 70. While his mother's voice was not strong, Russell inherited all his vocal and mental qualities from his mother's family, while his aunts, on his father's side, were critics. The source from which Mr. Russell took his stage name was a coincident. When a school boy, at the age of 13, he ran on a steamboat from Newark to Coney Island as mess boy each summer. The steamer on which he was employed could beat all the Iron Steamboat company's boats in New York bay. One day a little steamboat, "John Sylvester," came along and cleaned things up. Russell always remembered the "Slyvester," and on his first appearance in a professional concert for money at Orange, N. J., he called himself Harvey Sylvester Russell; later, at Providence, R. I., he only used H., and later, when he joined a minstrel show, manager A. D. Sawyer cut the H out.

He received his common school education at Orange and Newark, N. J., where the family moved when he was 8 years old. Twice he nearly lost his life on the Newark steamboat, once in a wreck on the Hudson river and later when the boat took fire and burned to the water. His mother died just as he was about to graduate from Prof. Baxter's school at the age of 16. As a school boy, living in a neighborhood where there were all white people, he was the center of attractiveness on account of his voice, and his first boyhood business capacity was distinguished by a successful initiative effort to build up an amatuer fire department with the white boys of the neighborhood; they built a hook and ladder, equipped wagon aparatuses and painted them, had fire alarms printed and raised the neighborhood in general while Russell figured as the "black chief," as the white people called him, who wore the finest cap of the white boys' fire department. The hook and ladder was built by the assistant chief, a boy of 17, who had aptitude as a carpenter, under Russell's instructions. Every night a wooden axletree would break, so the black chief ordered steel ones. Russell was at this time being trained and used as a choir boy and Sunday-school concert soloist by Prof. O'Fake, who had also discovered Wallace King, and Russell's step-father was offered big money to engage the great boy soprano by Fred Waldman, a variety stage manager, but his mother refused, a disappointment which made young Russell decide some day to go upon the stage. Once, about this time, Russell, who was about 14, ran out of school after being whipped by Prof. Baxter and vowed he would not return. After one week's loaf his mother decided to insist on his return; his step-father gave him a note and ordered him back to school, and today Mr. Russell looks upon this effort of good judgment on his mother's part as the best favor she ever done for his future welfare, which enables him today to make his living as a writer and moderate business man without even having to continue on the stage as a singer. His mother died when he was sixteen years of age and he was taken to New York by an aunt by marriage to be given a trade. Through the influence of a family friend, Mr. John Bush, Russell was put with Messrs. Brown and Gilmore, who, at that time, ran the finest colored barber shop in New York City. While serving as an apprentice he supported two little orphan half-brothers, 4 and 6 years of age, who later died. Money was plentiful for barber's devils at that time, and Russell took a two years' private high school course with a white student friend. At the same time, through the influence of a white English friend of his fire department days, he was given a free grand opera vocal education by Prof. Harry Bergan, a retired English opera singer of the Duff Opera Company, who taught rich pupils at a private studio in New York City. The professor had Russell to sing and execute all the hard music in his lectures to his pupils. He was given free tickets to all grades of musical and dramatic performances for six years, and was taught all the traditions of the stage by the influence and his association with white people of that capacity. After he had completed his trade as a barber, a trade he did not like, his aunt in New York died and he returned to Orange, N. J., to live with his great aunt. The Arcade Glee Club (white) of Newark then hired him to sing as a soloist for a season. In one year's time his aunt had secured for him a position as valet-de-chamber for A. H. Colby, the youngest son in the family where she had been employed for thirty years. With Mr. Colby, of Orange, N. J., and his chum, George Walker, son of Congressman Joseph H. Walker, of Worcester, Mass., Russell was taken to Providence, R. I., where he served as valet to Messrs. Colby and Walker at Brown University. Here was his chance for to further his studies.

The Walker family inherited a relaxation of concentrated thought, and young Walker could not spell the simplest words correctly, so he made Russell his copyist and private secretary, thereby giving him ample opportunity to read and study all the courses taken by Mr. Walker, who took much pride in instructing him; but later, when students would poke fun at Russell when he would cut Mr. Colby's hair or shave him, and also at Mr. Walker's spelling-bee secretary, Mr. Walker decided to cut these features of Russell's servitude out at the latter part of his senior year. Mr. Russell speaks of his four years at Providence as the happiest and best days of all his life. He received two salaries from each of his young employers. Mr. Colby kept a thoroughbred white bulldog which Russell insisted on dressing up with a big blue ribbon against Mr. Colby's orders, so Mr. Colby sent the dog home, to Orange, much to Russell's sorrow. Russell dressed and prompted his masters in the college minstrels and went enroute with them in cabs and private cars, and served them privately at the most exclusive hotels.

Mr. Russell has been entertained by the most exclusive colored society of Boston, and Providence, and his own cab bills figured at $20 per month. He succeeded Flora Batson, Sissievetta Jones and Marion Adams Harris as solist in the famous Meeting Street Church choir at Providence, R. I.

His most noted amateur appearance was when he produced "The Children of Jerusalem," a sacred oratoris, appearing as "Joseph in his Youth," on which occasion Brown University students, including his two employers, bought out the entire gallery for their own use. The performance was given for the Rev. Joshua Jones, later president of Wilburforce University. The trustees did not like Rev. Jones and rejected the performance or offer during its rehearsal progress. Mr. Russell hired a hall over their heads and gave the performance with great success and handed Rev. Jones all the profits. Mr. Russell was always a party present to all the $2 per plate banquets given to Hon. John M. Langston, T. Thomas Fortune, T. McCants Stewart and other big men. He once gave a four o'clock tea to Madam Nellie Brown Mitchell, the Boston prima donna. On one occasion he had the doors of the private residence where he boarded thrown open to give a public bnefit song recital for a widow lady, causing J. G. Bergen to give her another benefit at a church, where she would have otherwise passed unnoticed.

Benjamin F. Lightfoot, now deceased, who was a young tragedian of much talent, served at that time as dramatic critic (but not musical) on the FREEMAN in Editor Cooper's time as the first critic of his race residing at Providence, and was only succeeded by Russell in a wider and more proficient field several years later. When Messrs. Colby and Walker graduated from Brown University Mr. Russell had promised Mr. Colby's cousin, Everett Colby (now Senator Colby of New Jersey), and his chum, John D. Rockerfeller, Jr., son of the magnate, he would return to the university the next year to serve them as a valet also, but as Mr. Russell was stage struck he left town to star in classical concert and did not return to keep his promise. Under his own management and in the first venture he lost all the money he had saved. When Miss Mamie Rhodes, his Providence lady friend, heard of this she took to Boston and immediately married another fellow.

After appearing in all the big city churches of New England, New York and New Jersey, and being supported by all the best local talent of the East, Russell decided to take to the professional stage and made his professional debut with Hicks and Sawyers Georgia Minstrels at the Front Street Theater, Baltimore, Md., in August, 1891. He took up concert veriety and museum work the next season with much success. At that time he and Fred J. Piper were the only straight male colored singers in first class variety stage work. At this time Mr. Russell was a clear falsetto singer by cultivation who could make high C with ease, and was highly spoken of by the newspapers after he had sung privately on trial for B. F. Keith personally before singing an engagement at his Boston theater. I first met Mr. Russell when he was singing at the Palace Theater in Boston (season of 1893).

I took him and managed him on a concert tour through New England, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. When he appeared as the highest salaried singer in support of Black Patti at the time she made her world-wide reputation at Madison Square Garden we looked upon the engagement as a cinch, but had to threaten suit on our contract to collect all the money; our friend Dick Jones, Black Patti's husband, had put us next to the job. After this engagement I gave up Russell's management, we parted as friends and I started to Boston to go into the cigar business. Russell then went on a western tour, singing at Pittsburg, Cleveland and Chicago. During the World's Fair, Russell went on a tour in Ohio where he met a colored Democratic newspaper man, one J. M. Johnson, who took up the management of his tour, but induced Russell to go into the newspaper business. At Youngstown, Ohio, Johnson and Russell brought out a colored newspaper at Russell's expense and called it the Youngstown Free Speech. Editor Harry Smith, of Cleveland, had warned Russell not to deal with Johnson, but as a young aspirant in literature he did not listen. After the second week's issue of the paper it dawned upon Russell that Johnson was a dead beat, and before he could get himself together Johnson had collected subscriptions from leading Democrats and colored people all over town and skipped, leaving his wife sick in a hotel and Russell penniless. But Russell, who was always brave, got an engagement at once on his merits at Stanley's Museum, and by the aid of newspaper noteriety, through Johnson's embezzlement, drew big houses. At the end of the engagement Russell returned home happy in knowing that he had once been an editor, and had written the first stage and musical literature of his heart's desire on his own newspaper.

His next movement was to return to New England where he was popular in variety stage (vaudeville) and museum work. When he returned from New England to his home in Orange, N. J., one of his friends brought him to an amateur minstrel performance where he, at one glance, discovered Clarence Powell. He took Powell to his house at once, wrote him a monologue, instructed him for two weeks then took him on a tour to support him as a humorist in his concerts. Mr. Russell was then lecturing on the songs of slaves from his own original manuscripts and singing classical songs, while Powell was styled the "King of Fun." The following summer Mr. Russell served as wine man for C. C. Randolph, a New York head waiter at Manchester-by-the-Sea (Agnes Booth's Hotel), in Massachusetts; he had hired Russell so as to have a special star at the waiters' concert cake walk and ball. During this summer Mr. Russell, who had been a champion foot racer, having once beat the champion of Buffalo Bill's wild west at Erastina, Staten Island, and who had never been beaten by a white runner, experienced his first defeat in a race with one of the waiters, and had never been defeated since in races until he was defeated by Billy King of the Georgia Minstrels in later years.

The next season, at New Brunswick, New Jersey, he hired the big opera house and appeared as a star in an operatic concert in costume managed by his brother as a compliment to the Rutgers college students. For this occasion Russell wrote a college monologue for Mr. Powell, and had to push Powell on the stage to make him deliver it. He even prompted Powell, who had a fright, but the skit made a hit and Powell was encored, paving the way for Russell to enter in with classics. After this event Russell billed Powell as a co-star and the two made a hit at Asbury Park the following summer. When Russell signed to go with W. S. Cleveland for a minstrel tour he recommended Powell and signed the contract, but Powell was a failure and the two left the show before the season was out. Later Russell signed with Sam T. Jack's creoles, and also signed Powell with that company, of which Bob Cole was then stage manager. When this company opened at Sam T. Jack's Theater on Broadway, New York, Clarence Powell made a hit in his monologue, partly stolen and partly an original buget on "kissing" written for him by Russell. At the end of this week's engagement Powell and Russell parted association as actors for good. Powell remained with the company on a southern trip to Baltimore and Washington, and Russell joined Stetson's Uncle Tom's Cabin where he made his debut as a double-voiced marvel, singing falsetto and baritone-tenor alternately, supported by a male quartet in the slave scenes, and as a special soloist, and as there were no female singers he sang Eva in falsetto. Russell could never play an old woman character, and once when he was forced to play Aunt Clo in this company he so disconcerted the white actors, who broke down with laughter at each performance, that he had to be cut out of the cast. That, and his refusal to lead a bloodhound in the street parade, forced him to retire from the company.

Mr. Russell then took to vaudeville as a double-voiced marvel with much success, especially in New England, where he had always enjoyed much popularity. Next he was offered an engagement with William Foote's jubilee company for a two years' tour in Europe, but declined on account of a salary difference. He afterwards went west and on his first visit to Indianapolis he was introduced to Manager Elwood C. Knox at the FREEMAN office by J. Harry Jackson. He had partly made arrangements to sing at Indianapolis, but Clarence Powell, now a star comedian in Oliver Scott's minstrels, telegraphed for Russell to come at once to a town not for from Peoria, Ill., and join the show as J. Ed. Green had not shown up. The agreement was that Russell was to sing in the first part and open the olio in double-voice, but in case that Green showed up to be interlocutor and singer Russell was to retire from the company. When Green showed up Manager Scott expressed his regret to Powell, stating that he liked Russell's voice much the best. Russell then returned to Chicago and went on a tour of the Michigan summer resorts, and from there to New York. The next season he took a concert trip up the Hudson after having given John Cooper a chance to appear in his concert at the Y. M. C. A. hall at Newark. Cooper was a success. Russell gave him a stage name of "Prince Madigashi, the great ventriloquist," but Cooper's vanity failed and he went west where Powell took him up, and as Prof. John Cooper he is now a star in vaudeville. On his trip up the Hudson Mr. Russell discovered Prof. William C. Enty at Kingston, a concert pianist, who remained his bosom friend and pianist for ten years. At Poughkeepsie, N. Y., he met Madam Du Bois, now deceased, whom he billed as the Black Slave, and when they sang at Hyde Park Mrs. Fred Vanderbilt was present. Then Russell booked a tour of New England through the Zion Church connection by mail and starred Madam Du Bois through New England with the assistance of himself, Prof. Enty and some local talent. Each summer for the last ten years Mr. Russell has sang in all the most exclusive mountain resorts, hotels and sanitarums of the Middle Atlantic and New England States in song recitals given for one hour by himself alone, assisted by Prof. Enty.

On one occasion he gave a private recital for George Ehret, son of the millionaire brewer of New York, in his summer home in the Catskill Mountains, and later for his sister, a baroness; Prof. Enty played his instrumental selections on the $1,000 three legged grand piano and accompanied Mr. Russell's solos on the upright. Russell has also appeared at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, one time in support of Madame Lizzie Pugh Dugan. During the Spanish-American war Russell made a trip west to stage and put on an operatic and patriotic finale for the Afro-American Specialty Company at Springfield, Ohio. As Mr. Russell's salary was pretty high efforts were made to force him out of the show after he had staged his musical novelties, and after they had copied his music to use after he had gone. Russell knew that his contract was O. K. and that they owed him money, so he waited until they had cut him entirely out of the show when he went to a lawyer who had the sheriff of Piqua, Ohio, levy on the box office receipts and took all the money for his back salary and broke up the company.

Florence Hines, who was with the show, shook his hand and congratulated him. Other members of the company wanted to massacre him, and the sheriff had to draw his revolver to protect him. Russell once signed with "South Before the War" company and lost a valuable trunk. Once on his way home from the West Russell got stranded at Altoona, Pa., and had to take a job for a while at the Logan house. In the meantime he gave a gentleman's concert in full dress in a church, it was a minstrel show in disguise and went through undetected. The second waiter who had refused to wear a full dress suit like others in the concert was cut out of the show by Russell. On the second night of this festive occasion Russell produced a juvenile opera entitled the "Prince of Arcadia," and sang the title role. He had made many friends in that city, including George Ellis Bates, private secretary to the superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, now residing at Jersey City, and head of the Eastern Colored Elks.

Another trip to Chicago found Russell signed with Mahara's Eastern Minstrels for a tour of Canada, which ended at Buffalo during the Pan-American Exposition. After he had returned home he went to Boston, but sailed to Halifax for a tour of Nova Scotia and the British Isles, including Prince Edwards. On his return he appeared in a big church concert in Boston, and after a summer tour in the White Mountains of New Hampshire he returned home to Orange, N. J., retired from the stage to go into the magazine business.

He took what we term a small publishers' stock in the National Co-operative Magazine Company of Chicago, Ill., which furnishes its members with a free magazine which carries the mail order business advertisements in its interior to its members who only pay for the setting up of their own type of reading or advertisements.

On January 1, 1906, "Sylvester Russell's Review," a stage magazine for colored actors, made its first appearance at Orange, N. J., and sold well through the field of agencies where the FREEMAN had established Mr. Russell's reputation. All the star actors, except two, supported the publication, chiefly Mr. and Mrs. Billy Kersands, Ernest Hogan, Black Patti and S. H. Dudley. After six months the magazine failed as Mr. Russell had not yet fully understood the methods of profitable advertising. So he returned to concert work. While on a tour through the coal country of Pennsylvania he met a very amiable English druggist who was raised in America, at Hazleton, Pa., who concluded to back Russell on his merits and honor without security to put out a co-operative magazine, and on March 1, 1907, the Review again made its appearance, but not through the company to which Russell belonged. The new publication was neither a colored or white organ, but a magazine in which all the literature except a specialor so was supplied by the pen of Sylvester Russell whose name it bore. It was successful, both through the agencies and in its advertisement departments, but there were new troubles. The Republican newspaper manager who printed the magazine was not cordial to Russell in the usual business way like cultivated men are in New York and New England where he had formerly had lots of comic books published. The miner town man seemed to think that it was not the black man's brain that was running the enterprise, but that it just ran by locomotion. But Russell put up with the careless retarded disposition of the manager of the press rather than have his publication flunk. Just as Russell had become successful in landing full page "ads" his backer wanted him to transfer the magazine press work to a small (friend) printer who Russell knew was incompetent and before he had settled with the old printer in full. Russell objected, knowing the new printer could not get out the books, but seeing that both his backer and the printer were pulling two directions in the wrong way, and as his backer gave his note for all the Russell debts, Russell decided to let his backer have his own way, so they transferred the business to the new printer, leaving enough debt with the old printer to let him see the point—that the black fellow, and not his white backs, was the real head of the publication even if he did not have to pay the bill. The new printer flunked as Russell had expected. Then Russell decided to close up the business legitimately, leaving his backer to settle things by his own mistakes, and his old printer to collect, if he could, from his backer because of his insolent lack of cordiality. Then Mr. Russell took a trip to sing and rest in the mountains, but returned to Hazleton, Pa., to assure everybody that he had closed his business legitimately before leaving for the West. Mr. Russell played clubs and sanitariums on his trip west and arrived in Chicago in April, 1909, and at once brought out a Ward magazine of his own as before, which is not a colored publication, but a co-operative magazine and advertiser, local and mail order consolidated.

While at Hazleton, Pa., Mr. Russell secured for Prof. Enty, his companion and former pianist, a good position in that city. Of Mr. Russell's arrival in Chicago and his policies he will speak for himself:

"When I arrived in Chicago I went right to the home of my friend Billy Williams, the retired contortionist, with whom I was associated in Mehara's minstrels years ago. I at once brought out a successful publication, as above related, but I had to neglect business a little, as I was besieged by actors for favors and looked upon by curious strangers as a man easily handled and as ignorant as can be.

"There was not so much of my stage and literary life told in this article after all. I have written lyrics you know. I tried to establish an actors' fund too. Do you remember that—and raise FREEMAN collections for actors? I have been feted by some of the big actors too, I mention this as a teacher to a few little actors who try to snub the man who could say the word and make them a star under his signature in Chicago. And the little newspaper fellows who try to impress me that they are Thomas Fortunes and R. W. Thompsons, they, too, have faultered in their efforts to under estimate the man who came to Chicago, not to make a record, but with a record and ability enough to teach a lot of weak people an ounce of common sense. This is no time for me to dicker and dinky-dink with my policies. I will start another colored magazine possibly when I get ready. I haven't done a thing yet in Chicago. People will be surprised when they see who I will get to advertise. Although I have retired from the stage, so many people who have heard of my singing reputation in the East have asked me to please sing in Chicago. Of course, I shall, once or twice, when I get good and ready. Mr. Motts offered me an engagement through J. Ed Green some time ago, and not long ago Mr. Motts offered me a date personally.

"Of my policies, I dare not speak of them at this time. I will have something to say though some time. I will write on the "million dollar" school system, on "tainted ministers" who dabble in politics and try to run newspapers—and deal in real estate with gamblers. I don't believe in it; such men are most distinguished schemers; why T. McCants Stewart resigned from the ministry to become a lawyer. I don't believe in liars and pretenders either, that's why I criticise actors and managers and wait until I sail into the methods of actor societies if they don't pine out right. I am going to publish some pamphlet books. Valuable colored men are scarce in public life, and those who do much good, who have the real required ability, won't enter into it because wicked and tempting devils are ready to persecute and disgrace them if they tell the truth and teach the imps of satan to be good; but as for me and my policies, I'm one of the braver kind. I'll show men and certain kind of women, too, where they figure at in ignorance and vice. The dividing lines between sweet and what should not be spoken of, and of what should be smothered as secret shame and let alone and left to die from human minds is all shoreled us like dust in pitiful unmindful Chicago. When colored people have been taught what the great God of pity had intended that some weak pearless mortal of the human family must teach them of morality, even separate from Christianity, the race will grow better. Christian teaching without moral philosophy is a weak aim toward the establishment of a higher character or plain of respectability. Colored people are too quick to laugh at the life and weaknesses of some one else, especially people in public life who are much better morally, and of much more value to the world-at-large than they themselves, and those who cry that public people are mysterious from hearsay without knowing facts always assert the guilty privacy of their own indecent lives of which the devil who owns them had supplied them with false wit and knowledge. These are tidings of sorrow and lotions of joy that could be correctly adjusted if the dream of a God-given poet could be realized by the world by being brought out of poverty as Dunbar was in his struggles, two late to lease his life.

"They say I am the second Dunbar, and I have been called the Black Alan Dale. But know I am neither. They look not upon myself as philosopher and I do not claim to be one. I am noted as a critic, a rare provider of truthful advice of logic by the very intelligent, a mean, hateful snot by the ignorant, slandered by the envious and hailed with delight by the light-hearted masses of intelligent-ignorant. Whatever my policies are they will be found to have to do and they will teach the colored race when I am dead—at least the actors anyhow. The greatest tribute to my worth is the wrath of big actors who seek to create a dummy critic at their own expense to do their bidding in favor of vanity during my absence from New York, while brainless babes of professionals in Chicago snub me and amuse me. But I have entered into the right city for business anyhow. God bless you, me and Chicago.

"If Chicago will wait upon my health, and the world all over and the people shall deal with me kindly, as a problem resolved, the outcome may be generous and pleasing. What is a critic but a philosopher? If this is true let not your hearts be troubled. To borrow trouble because of criticism or poetry, philosophy or a badly rendered good song is to be an infidelic unbeliever in anything, and who is there among unbelievers who can, within a moment, totally repent. And now, my good friends and actors, my policies, the brief story of my life and my own penmanship of this occasion must leave you. I hope to be with you on tomorrow—A fond adieu."

ABOARD A. G. ALLEN'S PRIVATE CAR, "IDA MAY."

P. L. Jenkins writes from Newberry, Fla.: We are now in Florida, the land of sunshine, tropical fruits and flowers, and fishing parties seem to be the ruling passion of our bunch. Almost daily some of our boys go in quest of the denizens of the briny deep. Wm. Fisher, the euphonium player, sends regards to the Florida Blossoms and A Rabbit's Foot Company. Chas. E. Rue, our deep-voiced interlocutor, who knows how to deliver the goods, sends best regards to the profession. J. C. Singleton sends regards to Geo. Williams and the Georgia Minstrels bunch. Master Clifton Boyd, our marvelous little bending wonder, still holds his own, eliciting round after round of applause in his seemingly impossible contortions. James W. Wise, popularly known as plain Jim Wise, sends regards to all and wishes all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Wm. (Tuba) Thomas sends regards to the profession. P. L. Jenkins, trombone soloist, received his new Holton special gold trombone December 21, at Dunellon, Fla., costing $120, and this instrument gives us a full quota of the very finest instrumennts that money and brains can produce. One of the weakest spots of the managers and members of this company is to always have the best of everything. One glance at our instrumentation will verify this statement. J. B. Norton, our stage manager, has staged a laughable one-act farce for our concert, which follows the minstrel performance, featuring J. J. Perry, the great comedian, and W. A. Dixon as Charlie One Lung Kee, the Chinese laundryman, and the act is a screaming success from beginning to end. Our whole company wishes all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

THE PROFESSION AT MILWAUKEE

By P. J. Cooper.

The writer had the pleasure of a short interview with Prof. R. Byron Shelton, of the refined tea mof Fidler and Shelton, who are prime favorites at the Majestic this week, where they are playing a return date. Mrs. Shelton joins her husband here, en route to the coast. They were the honored guests at the Cosmopolitan Club rooms, where a smoker was tendered them. Smoking, music, refreshments and funny stories were the features of the evening. Officers: Capt. L. C. Valle, president; P. J. Cooper, vice president; R. F. Reed, treasurer; C. Semons, secretary. Mr. Shelton is writing a book on how to get into vaudeville, how to contract, and the necessity of rehearsing and punctuality. They were also entertained at the home of Mrs. Nina J. Reed, in Sixth street, Tuesday evening. Those present were Mr. Fidler, Mr. and Mrs. Ruby Shelton, Mrs. Lillian Bradford, Mrs. Mary Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Capt. L. C. Valle and others. An enjoyable time was had. Messrs. Fidler and Shelton presented the Cosmopolitan Club with a fine large photo, which adorns the club walls. We are glad to have the pictures of our friends. Send them in.

Mr. Geo. Weaver has consolidated with the Renox Bros., of Minneapolis, and Mr. Reynolds, who is an expert pianist. They are playing at the New Star Theater Rathskeller for an indefinite period, and are making good.

The Byron Bros., at the College Inn, where they have been playing for two months, will take the road next month, touring the Western States. They are without equals in their line.

Mr. John Malone, business manager of Young's Hotel, has returned from Indianapolis, and is at his post again. John knows how to make friends and keep them.

Mr. Bob Lawrence, who was hurt on the elevator at the Plankinton House, is very ill at his home, 533 Fourteenth street.

To correct a mistake in a previous issue of The Freeman, I will state that Mr. Raymond F. Reed is from New York City, and only his wife is from Albany, N. Y.

Lest ye forget, the Odd Fellows' Band, with Prof. Harry A. Kelley as director, gives its initial concert December 26.

P. J. Cooper's Chocolate Drops will entertain the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Catholic Mission with two performances, matinee and evening, January 16.

Get The Freeman of Mr. Coo kand Mr. Chase.

THE EXCHANGE THEATER, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Our show this week, "Trixie, the Pride of the Ranch." It was written and staged by Miss Mines. Miss Sweety Matthews, the leading lady; Miss Mines as Mr. Middleton, Miss Emma Thornton as Maxwell, Miss Mamie Payne, high sheriff and villain; Miss Beulah Henderson as Miss Clay, the teacher; Mr. Monroe Tabor, Overton the cattle thief; Ed. F. Peate as the Mexican; Mr. Willie West, the postmaster; Mr. Glenn, the favorite, as Silly; now at last, our faithful and reliable Miss Virgie Deore as Cowboy Joe.

We are trying to put on something that is more help to cultivate our performers as actors, and with such ladies as Madam Mines we will soon reach the ladder; I mean the last step of which we are striving for.

It takes a lot of work to reach the heighth of our ambition, and hoping all the Freeman readers and at least all performers try and get away from that fool and folly, such words as "that coon" and "dat nigger." So there won't be such shows as the play we have now against us, "The Nigger."

Virgie Deore sends regards to Pearl Woods, Vida Devine, Williams and Stevens, and all other friends; willie West, better known as the "Georgia Sunflower," a great success in the "Boola Rag," and "Johnny Had a Little Gun."

Monroe Tabor wants the Georgia Minstrels to send their band to Jacksonville if the show can't come.

Ed. Peat says hello to Tim Owsley, Sam Davis, Arthur Prince, Al Boyd, Chintz Moore, Tom Hicks, and says write me at 709 Church street, Jacksonville, Fla.

Emma Thornton sends love to all in and out of the profession. Hello Kenner and Lewis! Henry Prather, better known as Yellow Kid, sends regards to all friends. Would like to hear from Mary Adams.

LAGMAN THEATER, MOBILE, ALA.

Kenner & Lewis are still the headliners at the Lagman Theater and bringing the house down ightly with their high-class comedy and singing numbers, in fact, they are in a class by themselves. After finishing a seven weeks' engagement here they leav for Pnsacola, Fla., to tak charge of the Belmont Theater, which they were running previous to coming here. Billy Mills, the popular comedian and stage manager is getting his nigthly also, and is forging to the front rapidly. Madame Rosetta Brannan, the great coon shouter, has to answer from three to five encores nightly. Rebecca Kenzie, "The Black Swan," is still popular with the audience singing her high-class sentimental songs. Jos. Taylor, our wire artist is something marvelous, in fact, it is one of the fastest little bunches on the southern circuit. On the 16th inst. the Florida Blossoms were entertained by the company and witnessed a performance given by them and were elated over the event, and Sam Cohen, the speeler, says it was the neatest he ever saw. J. E. Simpson and Lonnie Fisher also say it was good. Preacher Crump delighted Leroy Knox "a little bit more." Kenner & Lewis sends regards to the whole bunch and says what's the matter with E. B. Dudley. The whole company joins them with regards. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to Bob and Jim Slater, Sweetie Matthews and all members of the profession and our staunch advocate The Freeman. The Whitman Sisters open here on Dec. 27.

THE GEORGIA MINSTRELS.

We are now in Mississippi, and we found our first snow, and all of the bunch are getting along nicely but Sidney Kirkpatrick, and we hope he will be able to give the bunch in Memphis, Tenn, the cross. The "gohst" is walking every week. The boys are all well fixed up with good overcoats. When we played Yazoo, Miss., David D. Smith, the popular comedian, had his overcoat and hat stolen. The parties were not satisfied with that, but they came back and stole his vest and blue dress coat. All the time David D. had his overcoat it was warm, but now all David D. sees is snow. He has composed a song to sing from now on, "Luck Must Change." All of the Georgia's send their best regards to all friends and wish them a merry Christmas. Comedians: Clarence Powell, Billy King, Kid Langford, David D. Smith, Thomas White, Kid Wilson, Will Washington and Alonzo Williams. Ballad singers: Prossor, Major Daniels and little Jakie Smith. Bandmaster: Fred Simpson. Leader of orchestra: Wm. Robison. We showed at Lexington, Miss., and made the people like the show. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

WHITNEY BROTHERS ON THE TOP ROUND.

Two of the most pronounced comedians in the business to-day are Messrs. Salem Tutt Whitney and J. Homer Tutt, who are shown in the above photo. They have written quite a number of popular plays, sketches and songs for many of the leading road and stock shows of the country. Recently they starred in the Southern Smart Set Company, and in former seasons were connected as principals in the Black Patti Troubadours and the Eastern Smart Set Company, scoring great hits as usual. Having always been nartistic and original at that, they have ever had easy sailing in making good. They will play the week of December 26 at East St. Louis, Ill., heading a large pick of clever performers, under the management of T. G. Cardwell.

THE FREEMAN AT BALTIMORE.

The Freeman can be secured at any time at 602 South Entan, or Camden Station baggage room. Harry M. Cubbins, representative.

AT LIBERTY

The Singing Wonder, Eph Ferguson, and Minnie Anderson, the World's Greatest Jubilee and Concert Singers, in the one original crossfired talk songs and sketches. Address 3119 Wentworth avenue, Chicago, Ill.

WANTED

Colored performers at the Pekin Theatre, Lexington, Ky. Write C. J. Parker, Booking Agent.

WANTED

Good colored vaudeville performers at all times, ladies and gentlemen. Taft Theatre, Luther Edwards, Mgr., 1314 Cedar St., Louisville, Ky.

ATTENTION!

Colored Vaudeville

Graves & Co., Sheet Music Suppliers, 3008 State street, Chicago, Ill. All the latest popular songs Don't forget to order "Honey Gal," "It's All Gone Now," "Her Name is Phœba Brown," "Harbor of Lost Dreams," "Kansas City Rags." Send 25c, the price.

WANTED

For Pekin Theatre, Cincinnati, O., and Dunbar Theatre, Columbus, O.,

Acts, singles and doubles, and Stock companies of 6 people. Time, two weeks in Cincinnati and two weeks in Columbus, O.

Ollie Dempsey, Lessee

Address all communications to

E. D. LEE,

Booking Agent and Manager,

Dunbar Theatre, - Columbus, Ohio

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AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

For Johnson's "History of the Negro Race" and "Light Ahead for the Negro." As a combination offer, I will furnish either of the above books with the beautiful picture, (photo-graveur), "Appealing to be Allowed to Help Fight for the Union," for $1.50.

A great combination of good Negro literature. Agents write, "they sell like hot cakes."

Price, singe copies, History, $1.00
" " " Light Ahead .75

By selling ten copies agents make $5.00 per day. Address

E. A. JOHNSON,

154 Nassau Street, - New York City, N. Y.

In the Field of Sport.

BY C. DANA MARSHALL.

So Ketchel is going abroad—and why and what for?

Harry Daniels will contribute regularly to the columns of this paper.

Gleason has been saying that the fight would take place in San Francisco, and now it is time for Rickard to boost Salt Lake City.

David Wyatt is all right, and so is the game worth writing about. "Dave" says he means to be friendly toward all, and that is very good of him.

There is a man out in Duke Center, Pa., by the name of Alphonzo Wheeler, who might let us hear from him some time, because he is a real sport follower.

Somehow the sports failed to aid us in the sporting section of this paper in the Christmas number, but we gave them a run fo rtheir money, and we intend to do more in the coming year. Watch The Freeman.

Look out for our special baseball number, which is sure to come out in the near future. Managers, owners, magnates, baseball players of all patrs, get your cuts ready. We want you to get in communication with this office on the baseball number. Who and what are the best teams and playres among Negroes in this and foreign countries.

LELAND GIANTS' PAST RECORD.

James H. Smith, former manager of the Leland Baseball Giants' Club, sends us an official record of that team for 1905, which will appear in next week's issue. The record in brief is: Won, 93 games; lost, 25; tied, 3.

SAM LANGFORD IS MATCHED WITH THE DIXIE KID

Will Fight in Memphis on January 10.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., December 30.—Sam Langford has been matched to meet the Dixie Kid here January 10, according to announcement by local promoters, who have guaranteed three matches with colored opponents to follow for Langford. Langford will not be allowed to meet any white man here, according to the ruling of municipal authorities.

HERE'S A BASEBALL QUERY.

We Want to Know Can Anyone Answer It.

Here it is: There are three men on bases and none out. The batter hits the ball. It is not a safe hit and there is no error made. Still three runs score and there are two assists and a put-out on the play. Can you figure it out?

Note.—Everybody may send in an answer who pleases.—Ed.

GIANT COLORED MAN WANTS FIGHT WITH LANGFORD

Big Six-Footer Is Matched to Fight Sam Langford.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., December 30.—Big Tom Overby, a heavyweight Negro pugilist of this city, to-day received an offer from the matchmaker of the Armory Athletic Association, of Boston, to meet Sam Langford there in a twelve-round ... by has been fighting for a ye... been ndefeated, and has won ... ights by knockouts, the longe... only four rounds. He weighs ... ds and is six feet tall.

TOMMY BURNS WANTS FIGHT WITH JACK JOHNSON.

...CISCO, December 31.—A ca... been received here from ..., who is yet in Sydney, Aus...: "If articles with Jeffries ... n to fight before July, will ... finish fight, winner take all. (Signed) "TOMMY BURNS."

...urns wants another crack at ... d by the same token he is not ... it, at least not until after the ...ffries imbroglio has become a ... record. This because of the ... the Jeffries-Johnson articles ... that neither of the contestants ... rticipate in any fight before the ... hampionship fight next July.

WALTER CAMP PLACES NEGRO ON HONOR LIST.

Places Ayler on All-American Football Team.

What do you think of it? Walter Camp, one of the greatest football authorities, or perhaps the leading expert in the country, in an article in the Outlook Magazine for January, has named an honor list in football for January, and in among those names there is a Negro. Thsi is a departure from the All-American team which he selects at this time of the year. Usually Mr. Camp names a Negro in his second or third team. But this time Mr. Camp has named seven Yale men, four each from Harvard, Dartmouth and Pennsylvania, and three each from Princeton and Brown. Six University of Michigan men are mentioned. The Brown University men are Ayler, left guard; Regnier, right end; Sprackling, quarter-back. It is said that Ayler is even a greater star than Marshall.

BASEBALL ARTICLES DEFENDED.

By David Wyatt.

I wish it understood that I am not arraying one particular class of baseball magnates, players or business men against another. I am for baseball, first, last and always. If Mr. Jackson saw fit to start a baseball club of his own, the private business affairs surrounding such a transaction is none of the writer's business, and it does not in any way concern the baseball public. The public is only interested in the part of the business which is intended for display before them—that is, the team. The writer and the public will probably never have a chance to see the money that is behind the club; but we do want to see a team which is equal to the one which was torn asunder for the purpose of starting the new one. For a period of sixteen years or more, and while the "Major" was issuing out money orders for Uncle Sam, the writer was eking out an existence as a baseball player. I frankly admit that the financial returns from said vocation have not placed me amongst the wealthy men of our race; but it did give me an opportunity to come in close contact with baseball, and after years of study I now find myself in possession of enough knowledge of the game as to make it possible for me to issue information which is for the purpose of helping those now in the game and all others who care to try it. We all know that Mr. Jackson is an officer in the famous Eighth Regiment, Illinois National Guards, but his knowledge of ethics along that line does not make him a capable judge as to what is war in all other lines of business. He no doubt is familiar with all the odors that may arise from the burning of powder, but his three years as a mere figurehead in baseball has not sufficed as yet to put him in touch with our great national game.

The writer is willing and loaded down with ammunition for proving any assertion that has been made in all articles written by him. A man should be genteel in success just as much as when failure is staring him in the face. Mr. Jackson now sees fit to cram his own words down the throat of the writer, and since he states that he has "ceased to parade himself as a Negro, and is now acting as a man," one would not think him guilty of using his lofty position in life as a weapon to crush an unfortunate individual who has seen such a little of the good fortune with which he is surrounded. Mr. Jackson shows his lack of knowledge of baseball when he takes a slap at the intellectual part of the game, and he unconsciously slaps at one of his business associates, Mr. Leland, who scored all games for the first club, upon which the writer played in Chicago. This fact places Mr. Leland along with all the other great men in baseball, namely, "Ban" Johnson and the late Harry Pulliam, presidents of the American and National Leagues, respectively, who scored at one time, as did Chas. Murphy, owner of the Cubs; Horace Fogel, of the "Phillies," upon whom the destinies of our great game now depend. Chadwick, the father of baseball in this country, scored games and devised rules for the same.

I will say that if the writer is ever so lucky as to reach the high social standing that Mr. Jackson now occupies, there are no inducements in this world that could cause him to come down for the purpose of taking part in a cheap baseball argument.

Information.

David Wyatt recommended and had "Rube" Foster brought to Chicago, guaranteeing to pay his railroad fare from Calvert, Tex., to Chicago, out of the his own salary as a player if the "Rube" failed to make good as a pitcher. Foster was humiliated by being classed as a pauper on account of the bad condition of baseball at that time, whereupon he produced and flashed $2,500 in cash, and he and the writer left to join a white club at Otsego, Mich., where they finished the season. They both joined the Cuban Giants the following season, where yours truly fell down from rheumatism and old age.

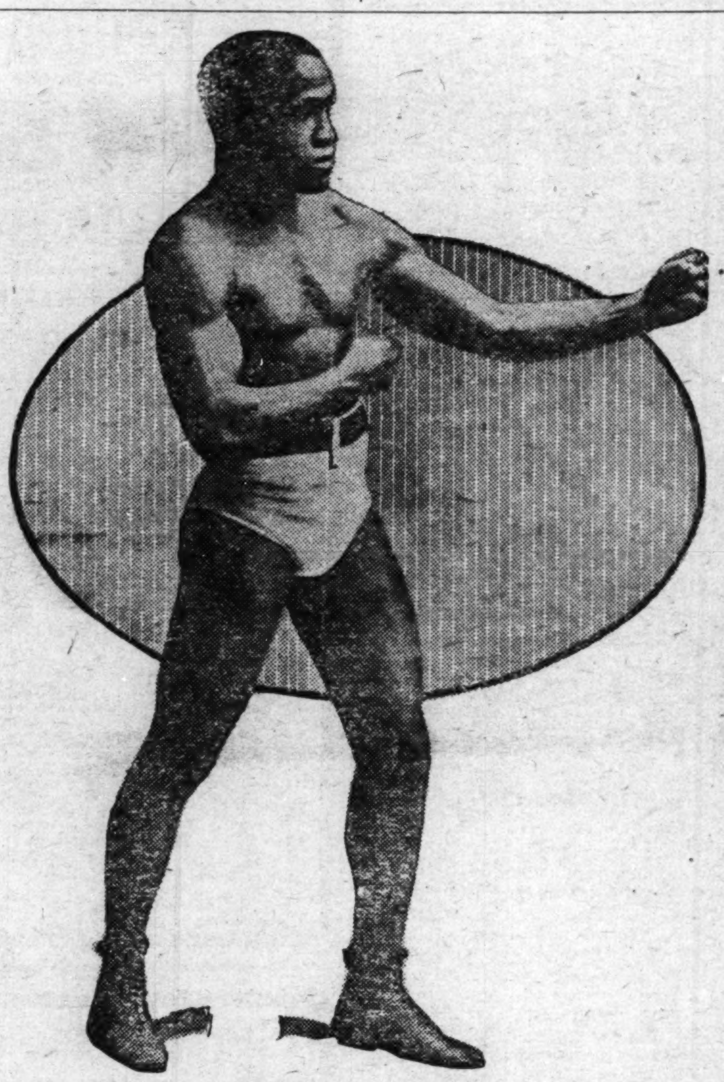
There are 300 clubs affiliated with the Amateur Managers' Association here, and 160 clubs were registered in the Intercity and Park Owners' Association and six in the City League. The writer knows all these managers by sight, and is personally acquainted with the majority of all, as well as the players. The writer is personally known to all managers of clubs in all the territory within a radius of 200 miles or more of Chicago.

I am the only Negro to receive an official appointment as score man in a league of a class of semi-pro's, as here. The writer is closely allied with all baseball writers of the daily papers of Chicago, and his decision has been sought upon points pertaining to the intellectual part of the game.

The writer maintains a club which is used as school for young ball players, the writer himself coming from a school which has given to the baseball world such players as Jack Taylor, former great pitcher of the Cubs; "Jiggs" Donahue, former first baseman of the Sox; Gus Dundon, former second baseman of the Sox; Bobby Quinn, president Ohio State League and secretary of the Columbus American Association Club; Tom Williams, umpire in the Three-I League, formerly pitcher for Cleveland under Tebeau; Tom Thomas, pitcher for five years with Detroit Western League; John Mahaffy, pitcher for Washington Club, in old National League. The writer grew up from a mere boy to manhood along with the majority of the above named in a small town—Nelsonville, O., where we maintained a semi-professional team, which played with or against clubs which had in their line-up such men as Chas. Comiskey, owner of the Sox; Amos Rusie, Marty Bergen, "Roaring" Bill Kennedy and others. While the writer was securing hits off such pitchers baseball was being played in back yards and on the prairies of Chicago by colored players, as this was in the early nineties. At that time a small book, giving the history of the men in baseball, who comprised the Leland Giants Baseball and Amusement Association, states that Mr. Jackson was connected with a prairie team, and if he remembers well he told the writer that he kept score, no doubt using the old-time method of cutting notches in a stick, which was called tallying.

This article is written in a spirit of friendship, and its chief purpose is to protect the sporting columns of The Freeman against writers of sport news who have no bona fire claim on the same.

(Note.—We are glad to read the above from the pen of Mr. David Wyatt, because we had always hoped to keep these columns free from the use of knockers, and only articles based on facts and written in the spirit of friendship shall be admitted in these columns. Mr. Wyatt shows a disposition to be fair in all matters pertaining to baseball, and thus we shall continue to publish his articles as long as he continues to deal fairly with baseball matters, and especially individuals.—Ed.)



YOUNG PETER JACKSON.

REFUTES SMITH'S STATEMENT IN BASEBALL.

By Harry Daniels.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Having read in your paper of late articles appearing in your sporting columns from the pens of Mr. Jimmie Smith and Mr. David Wyatt, I must admit they do not consider the eastern part of the United States at all as far as being up-to-date in colored baseball. I trust, after your readers of your sporting column read the following statements in behalf of the East, they will find colored baseball was first introduced in the East in 1877, in Washington, D. C., when the first colored team was organized by one Thomas G. Jones, and named the Nationals. At present the East lays claim to the following teams: Royal Giants, who have as much right to the honors of colored world championship as any other team, as they won every series of games they played against colored or white teams in the past two seasons; also we have the Cuban Stars, Philadelphia; Cubans, Pittsburg; Quaker Giants, all first-class teams, also several good second-class teams in "Pop" Wakins' New York Colored and Pittsburg Giant teams.

The past season was the greatest season the East has had since the early days of the Cuban Giants, from a financial standpoint; as one would expect, John W. Connor's Royal Giants were far ahead of all other teams from a financial and playing standpoint. The Royals won the International League pennant hands down, losing only one game. The pennant received was a very handsome mounted silver cup. They also received as a personal gift from R. G. Perry, an attorney at law of Brooklyn, N. Y., a silver loving cup for winning the pennant. This season was a bad one for the Philadelphia Giants, for from time to time one or more players were hurt in accidents of some kind, but with all this they managed to defeat the Lelands two out of three games at Detroit. It is doubtful if they made any money this past season. The Cuban Stars cleared at least two thousand dollars. The Cuban Giants made some money; in fact, J. M. Bright always gets his. The Pittsburg Giants, a first-year team, under the management of Harry A. Smith, cleared about six hundred dollars. The Quaker Giants broke about even on the season, caused by a very poor spring trip. The second teams play on the co-operative plan and have no complaints to make.

NEW ORLEANS NEWS NOTES.

By V. P. Thomas.

Blames It All on Uncle Sam.

The resignation of President Zelaya from the executive office of the Republic of Nicaragua, in the face of the rebellion inaugurated by General Juan J. Estrada, was not unexpected, especially after there was no longer any doubt that the United States government desired to see Zelaya out of the office for reasons stated in Secretary of State Knox's statement given to the public regarding the situation of affairs in Nicaragua some days ago.

The United States did not actually interfere in the Nicaraguan troubles, but it looked every minutes so much like it was about to do so, and with an attitude of opposition to the Zelayan end of it, that it is safe to say that if it were not for the fear of this danger, Zelaya would not have resigned. In his letter of resignation to the Nicaraguan Congress Zelaya says, in effect, that the attitude of the United States towards the government of Nicaragua was occasioning further and more unnecessary bloodshed among his countrymen, and that his duty as a patriot dictated the unselfish action meant by the tender of his resignation from the presidency of the Republic; that the revolutionists, whom the United States government was publicly providing with arms, had declared that they would put down their munitions of war if he would resign; therefore, in order to avoid further fighting and bloodshed among his people, he had decided to surrender his executive power. He declared also that although the rebels were being helped in the manner stated above by the government of the United States, they were being defeated everywhere by the heroism of the soldiers of the Nicaraguan government. Zelaya, in other words, blames it all on the intrigue of the United States with the rebels, and leaves the world to believe that the bloodshed in Nicaragua is the underhanded work of this country at the inception of the rebellion, which was carried on later by the open assistance of the United States government in providing the rebels with arms. He mentions no other foreign government or people meddling in the affairs of Nicaragua.

Zelaya became President of Nicaragua through a rebellion headed by himself sixteen years ago. He had been expelled from Nicaragua on account of the constant agitation he was carrying on against the government, and he went to Guatemala, which was at the time under the rule of Barrios. He joined Barrios' army and became a general. After learning much about war and warfare in Guatemala, he returned and raised an insurrection in Nicaragua, which placed him in the presidency of the Republic, which he continued to rule until he decided to resign for the reasons already given. He triumphed by the sword, and by the same instrument he has been forced to surrender his governing power.

* * *

Ways of Democrats Past Finding Out.

The ways of a Southern Democrat are past finding out. Over in the State of Mississippi are some who are begging President Taft for jobs, and, according to reports, expect to get them. There are some there who have federal jobs already, and want to hold on with a better hold under Mr. Taft's regime. Wonder what a Republican would be considered by these same Democrats if he dared to aspire to position under a Democratic President? And what would Democrats think of a Democratic President who did not have anything better to do with the positions he had to give out than to give them to enemies of his policies and of his party, as will be the case if Mr. Taft permits himself to "throw pearls to swine" by appointing these everlastingly hungry fellows of the other faith to the places they are begging him for? Mr. Taft, by his elevation to the presidency by Republican votes, is constituted the chief builder of the glory and eminence of this country for and in the name of the party which placed him in that position, and it seems that it is but fair that he should employ his help from among those who believe as he does, that the way the Democrats want the work to be done is not the right way, and the plans and matter they would use in building the glory and eminence of this country are not the class and kind that the Republicans believe will fill the bill or effect the object in view. Mr. Taft has repeatedly avowed that it is not his hope or intention during his presidency to do anything with the offices he has to fill to win the South from its love of its own ways and ideas about how things should be carried on in the government of this country, and this declaration is passing current at its face value among the people by reason of the fact that it was made in cold blood and without the prompting of any but his own conscience after he had examined it and pondered over his duty as a party chief. It is, therefore, it seems, unnecessary for him to take men on the works who are not only not in accord with his party's policies of government and construction, but are, besides, openly associated and affiliated with the party which will take the field and stump against every claim the Republicans will set up for continuing in public favor and confidence at the next election. The civil service policy of the Republican party allows persons of every political faith, so long as they are bona fide citizens of the United States, an equal chance on merit and qualification to get employment from the government, if they apply for positions and can stand the tests required of those wanted to fill vacancies in the public service. No question as to party affiliation is asked any applicant, and Democrats need not hesitate to apply from fear of embarrassment on that score. Why not let Democrats get their meed of public patronage through the civil service?

THE BED THAT PUTS THEM ALL TO SLEEP.

As Christmas time approaches interest is becoming more general all over the State in the now celebrated Rest Easy Bed Springs, of which much has been said in the columns of this paper. As an added value to the already perfectly constructed springs, the manufacturers are now putting in bronzed copper wire instead of the black springs, which lends a richness of beauty and finish that the springs did not possess before. The price of these springs is placed in the reach of all, and they are sold by all dealers for $15. As we have said before, there is nothing in modern bed springs that comes anyways near the Rest Easy. To be appreciated they must be seen. If you are in need of a pair of bed springs, be sure and ask your dealer for the Rest Easy. A demonstration of their worth will be cheerfully given to all who ask. As a Christmas present you could think of nothing more sensible to present your wife.

BEST ON EARTH.

Editor Freeman:

Enclosed find renewal for the 1909 subscription for the BEST PAPER ON EARTH for news of the colored people. Yours for success.

P. M. Johnson, M. D.,
41 Ontario Street, Toledo, Ohio.

—THE—
"HOLTON"
BAND INSTRUMENTS
Are Used by the Best Colored Musicians in Preference to Any Other.

Mr. P. G. Lowery is considered one of the best colored cornet soloists in the world. He is also one of the most efficient bandmasters, being connected with the Wallace-Hagenbeck show the past season. He himself used the "New Proportion" cornet, and has his band all "Holton" instruments. His opinion of our instruments is worth reading:

Bedford, Ind., Sept. 1.
Frank Holton, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Friend—After thoroughly testing the qualities of your "New Proportion" cornet you sent me, I found it a cornet for all lines of business. I have played all the standard makes, but for both business work and solo I find the "New Proportion" cornet THE cornet. I cheerfully recommend it to any one who wants the best.

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Cornet Soloist and Bandmaster.

"Holton" instruments are sold for cash or on installments. We allow a week's trial before the deal is closed, so there is absolutely no risk in purchasing them. The "Holton" is the instrument that is coming to be universally used and all up-to-date musicians should find out about them. Our catalogue and other literature free on request.

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SEND NAME AND ADDRESS TODAY—YOU CAN HAVE IT FREE AND BE STRONG AND VIGOROUS.

I have in my possession a prescription for nervous debility, lack of vigor, weakened manhood, failing memory and lame back, brought on by excesses, unnatural drains, or the follies of youth, that has cured so many worn and nervous men right in their own homes—without any additional help or medicine—that I think every man who wishes to regain his manly power and virility, quickly and quietly, should have a copy. So I have determined to send a copy of the prescription free of charge, in a plain, ordinary sealed envelope to any man who will write me for it.

This prescription comes from a physician who has made a special study of men and I am convinced it is the surest-acting combination for the cure of deficient manhood and vigor failure ever put together.

I think I owe it to my fellow man to send them a copy in confidence, so that any man anywhere who is weak and discouraged with repeated failures may stop drugging himself with harmful patent medicines, secure what I believe is the quickest-acting restorative, upbuilding, SPOT-TOUCHING remedy ever devised, and so cure himself at home quietly and quickly. Just drop me a line like this: Dr. A. E. Robinson, 3831 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich., and I will send you a copy of this splendid recipe in a plain ordinary envelope free of charge. A great many doctors would charge $3.00 to $5.00 for merely writing out a prescription like this—but I send it entirely free.

If you would keep abreast of the times then you should read The Freeman each week at six months, 85 cents; one year, $1.50.

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The basis upon which the corporation has maintained its standard is shown in its increased assets of the Company, which raised its stock from $2.50 market value to $5 per share, which are issued fully paid and non-assessable.

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JOHN W. HARDY, President.

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The Ayres Bulletin

THE FIRST SPRING
SILKS

An attractive assortment of new silks for spring arrived last week. All in plain colors, many new shades and plenty of navy, cadet, browns, etc. Prominent:

Peau de cygne, sure to be one of the most popular plain silks for spring wear; has lustrous messaline finish, is firm and closely woven, in every wanted color for street and evening. 19 inches wide, a yard..................75c

Electra satin, a splendid wearing soft satin silk with chiffon finish, about the best dollar silk we have ever shown Street and evening colors, 20-in. wide, yard..$1.00

Liberty satin, yard wide, soft satin silk, wears remarkably well, mostly in dark colors; $1 50 silk, bought underprice, to sell at...........................78c

—2d floor, east aisle.

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Indiana's Greatest Distributors of Dry Goods.

CITY AND SOCIETY

GET THE HABIT.

Read The Freeman—Religious, Political, Stage, Sport, and all other news. On sale at your news dealer or agent every Saturday.

Mrs. Susie Thompson is spending the holidays with relatives in Chicago.

Captain John Buckner and Mrs. Emma Brown were married Wednesday evening.

Miss Isora Rogers of Clinton, Ill., is visiting Mrs. Ella Hardison and Mrs. Lutt.

Long tan coat, grey suit, velvet jacket size 36. 103 W. St. Clair street, side door. 16

The Freeman can be found at Mr. J. L. Pollock's, 354 Indiana avenue, Indianapolis, Ind.

r. W. M. Bell spent Christmas in Chicago, Ill., the guest of his sister, Mrs. John Beard.

I shall be pleased to see you at the grand promenade at Tomlinson Hall Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. V. Hill spent Christmas with their son, William, and family at Chicago, Ill.

End your holiday festivities by attending the holiday promenade at Tomlinson Hall Monday night.

Mr. James Boyd, traveling waiter for the Big Four Railroad, is spending the holidays with his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Denson of Muncie were in the city this week, the guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross.

Handsome men and beautifully gowned women will enjoy the grand promenade Monday night at Tomlinson Hall.

Miss L. B. Davis of Paducah, Ky., is visiting her sister, Mrs. George G. Hill, at 1961 Alvoid street through the holidays.

Mrs. Malinda Crawford of Wakpeton, N. D., is in the city visiting her sister, Mrs. Mary Venable, 809 Muskingum street.

S. E. Gray has opened up a first-class cafe at 224 Indiana avenue, and is catering to the wants of the public along the food line.

The Men's Club of St. Phillips Episcopal Church will entertain the public at a grand promenade at Tomlinson Hall Monday evening.

Hello! Yes! Oh, yes! I shall be ready to accompany you to Tomlinson Hall Monday night not later than 9:30. Thank you. Goodbye.

Mr. Roscoe Walden was in the city a few days this week mingling with old friends. Mr. Walden is just back from an extensive trip through the Northwest.

The Roger brothers, James and Burt, of Homestead, Ind., were in the city last week enroute to St. Louis, Mo., to spend the holidays with their aunt, Mrs. Jane Hutchinson.

Miss Vashti McDonald of Montgomery, Ala., together with her little brother and sister are visiting their aunt, Mrs. J. W. Norrell, in Senate avenue, north. They will remain through the holidays.

Prof. R. Augustus Lawson of Hartford, Conn., was the guest this week of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lawson. Prof. Lawson was enroute to Nashville, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga., where he gave recitals.

Mrs. Hallie Gibbs Smith of Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. William Prince, Mrs. Georgia Northcross and Mr. Albert Bailey were the guests of Mrs. Pauline Bailey and her sister, Mrs. M. J. Kinney of Pickway, Ohio, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Hicks gave an elaborate Christmas dinner Sunday in honor of their brother, Mr. Fulton Hicks, of Chicago. Those present were, German Hicks, Rev. David L. Hunt of French Lick, Ind., Mr. B. Hunt and Mr. John Moore of this city.

Mr. Onis Williams, an Indianapolis boy of long ago, is in the city visiting his mother, Aradna Williams, 757 W. Walnut street. Mr. Williams has just closed a successful business in the West and is enroute to Cleveland, where he proposes to embark in a new business.

The Magnolia Pleasure Club entertained its many friends at the Sumner League Tuesday afternoon and evening. The house was beautifully decorated in club colors, Christmas bells and cedar. The refreshments were in culb colors, which were lavender and white. The out-of-town guest was Mrs. Bennett of Topeka, Kan.

Those who missed hearing Prof. Richard B. Harrison on last Wednesday evening at the Jones Tabernacle Zion church missed a grand treat brought within easy reach, and it is to be regretted that more of the select and talented citizens failed to patronize this, one of the finest literary entertainments ever given in this city. The city is under lasting obligation to the Rev. Dr. Callis for the great sacrifice he is making to now and then present to this critical public some of the best brains which the Negro race possesses. Mr. Harrison is not a novice, but a real artist of the first water, and without exaggeration we do not hesitate to pronounce him "one of the finest elocutionists, white or black, in this country." His power for mimicry is simply wonderful. He is fortunate in the possession of a voice full of music and charm, which is well adapted to the program he renders. He is simply superb in the rendition of the late Paul Laence-Dunbar's verses in Negro dialect. "When Malinda Sings" is a scream. Mr. Harrison's rendition of the "Merchant of Venice" and Poe's "Raven" showed the dramatic side of this talented man, who has more than ordinary dramatic ability. Indianapolis should seek the return of this great artist of the Afro-American race.

Y. C. W. P. A. NOTES.

Miss Walker is home for the holidays.

Mrs. M. C. Wilson of Texas is visiting her sister, Miss Fanny Milburn, at the Association Building.

Mr. Richard Harrison, dramatic reader of Chicago, was entertained at six o'clock dinner Thursday.

Miss Florence Harris of Providence, R. I., will be the guest of Miss Walker Friday and Saturday.

TO OUR READERS.

The Freeman wishes to announce that we have secured the services of Rev. H. J. Callis, D. D., to conduct a column on "Religious Thought", which will begin with our next issue. We feel sure that this will be appreciated by the readers of The Freeman.

JONES TABERNACLE A. M. E. CHURCH—REV. H. J. CALLIS, PASTOR.

The Christmas program rendered by the Sunday School and choir last Sunday evening was very much enjoyed by those present.

The pastor and his family were very kindly remembered by many of the parishioners, for which they wish to extend their thanks and grateful appreciation. Commencing with Monday evening, January 3, the week of prayer will be observed, to which the public is cordially invited.

At the 10:45 service Sunday morning the holy communion will be administered. Sunday evening will be emancipation night. Short talks will be delivered by Lawyer Brokenburr, Dr. E. N. Perkins, Mr. G. L. Knox and the pastor. Patriotic music will be rendered by the choir.

INDIANAPOLIS COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

A new proposition, which should interest all of our people who are musically inclined, is being promoted. It is a college of music devoted to the making of teachers and the development of artistic players. Seldom, if ever, has such an opportunity been offered the girls of Indianapolis to complete a musical education and at a cost and such convenient terms as to enable the poorest of the poor to continue an interrupted course. The school is owned and controlled by two white teachers of the Southwest, who are artists and teachers of experience. At present three studios are maintained in different parts of the city, and the management is concentrating an effort to open a central school in the business district the first of the year. A feature of the school is the payment of car fare for all students. A half dozen solicitors are at work for the management. Address 112 W. Fifteenth street or 427 Toledo street, Indianapolis, Ind.

THE STARKSES CLIMB CAPITOL FLAGSTAFF

Young Colored Lads Assume Risk and Receive $15.

A new flag was hoisted on the State House, Monday, under some difficulties. The old flag had become tattered in the whipping breezes that whistle around the Capitol dome, and, being tattered, had wrapped itself around the cable until its operation was impossible.

C. J. Wheeler, superintendent of the building, looked about for a man to risk his life on the job, and found Lyman E. Starks, a sprightly young colored man about town. Starks was willing to try it, and so, before going up, he signed an affidavit that he would assume all responsibility, the State agreeing in turn to pay him $15 for the skyward trip. Starks made several attempts, and after reaching some height up over the dome came down fully exhausted. Later he returned with his brother, Leslie Starks, known as the Indiana Kid, and a very agile fellow. Leslie easily accomplished the ascent over the dome by aid of a ladder strapped to the dome railing. From the base of the flagstaff to the top is about 40 feet, but Starks went up it like a squirrel. His successful effort attracted a large crowd, and great was the applause when he reached the top. Lyman received the old flag as a souvenir, while Leslie was presented the quickly earned $15. The Starks want to know if there are any others wishing to have flags removed from flagstaffs, domes or skyscrapers. Address this office.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The "Law of Success" will be the subject of a strong address to be delivered at the monster meeting next Sunday by Rev. T. A. Smythe, pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. Church. Last Sunday a good crowd turned out to hear Col. Ritter on the "Law of the Land", and this Sunday another law will be expounded. In addition to the address of the occasion Raymond Shirley, a boy tenor of exceptional merit, will sing in connection with the thirty-minute musicale given by the Glee Club and Orchestra.

The Monster Meeting programs have been of an exceptionally interesting nature and the speakers and special numbers that are booked for the rest of the season bespeak one of the best years yet put in by the Monster Meeting, which is today the greatest meeting of its kind that is conducted anywhere. That the men appreciate the effort that is put forward by the Association in their interest is manifested by the way they turn out, and a greater cosmopolitan corwd cannot be found anywhere at any meeting. The board of directors of the Association are to be congratulated for having given to the city of Indianapolis a meeting that stands in the annals of Association work as the leader of them all. All men are urged to be out at the first meeting in the new year. It has been decided by the board of directors that no announcements will be made at these meetings in the future. The program will begin promptly at 3 o'clock and is for men only. Jones Tabernacle is the place of meeting, and is located on the corner of W. orth and Blackford streets.

The various activities of the Association will resume their regular sessions after the vacation period next week. On Monday at 8 o'clock the senior gymnasium class, under the personal supervision of the general secretary, will play a game of basket ball.

The night school offers a special inducement to the men who are looking for instruction. A call at the office and a talk with the general secretary may mean much to you. Come and see him any day in the week. Classes are conducted every Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 8 to 10. Messrs. C. B. Gilliam and Henry Lewis are the teachers. Come and see about it.

The Tuesday Night Bible Class invites all men to join with them in the study of the Bible. Tuition free. This class meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p. m. for supper, when a good wholesome supper is served to the men for ten cents. Class session is held from 7 to 8, thus giving any one who participates the rest of the evening to themselves. The invitation is to all men.

The Sunday morning Bible class which meets as its name implies, every Sunday from 8 to 9 a. m., is also open to the men of Indianapolis, irrespective of their church belief or affiliation. All men are made welcome. Come.

THE FREEMAN IN LONDON, ENG.

Copies of The Freeman can be secured in London, Eng., at Daw's Steamship Agency, 17 Green street, Charing Cross Road, W. C.

MITCHELL, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

The Christmas tree was quite a success financially and socially. Santa Claus visited the children....Prof. Rumsey and family, of Spencer, and Miss Olia Mitchell spent the holidays with Mrs. Henrietta Lewis and Mrs. Jane Mitchell....Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Thompson ate Christmas turkey with Mrs. Henrietta Lewis.... Mr. Paul Henson, of Bloomington, is spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Hattie Henson....Mrs. Ellen Rains entertained at dinner, Sunday, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Thompson....Mr. James Cooper and sister Bessie, of Terre Haute, have returned home, after spending the holidays with their father, Mr. Henry Cooper and family....Rev. Mason filled his pulpit Sunday, after a few weeks' vcaation. ....The program rendered under the management of Miss Bertha Cooper, at the Christmas tree, was commendable.... Mrs. Hattie Henson entertained at dinner, Tuesday, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Thompson. ....Mrs. Bettie Lewis, we are sorry to say, continues quite ill....Rosa Lee has become a member of the juvenile choir.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mr. Samuel Fitts was in the city, visiting his family, through the holidays. He returned to Cleveland Monday....There was a birthday party given at the home of Mrs. Dickson, 100 William street, in honor of her little daughter Edith, it being her tenth birthday. Her many friends enjoyed their Christmas with Miss Edith. The table was nicely decorated with a beautiful cake holding ten candles, and a vase of carnations. Many beautiful presents were received. The guests: Mrs. Mattie Lacox, the grandmother; Miss Jerrie Hill, of Pittsburg; Viola Sanders, Alexander Brooks, Gertrude Sanders, Marion Barnes, Hilda Cabbit, Lorain Barnes, Irene Barnes, Ora Barnes, Ruth Seevers, Hattie Seevers, Marie Brooks, Hattie Fitts, Gladys Taylor, Beatrice Chase, Dollie Blackwell, Teresa Anderson, Clarence Shelby, James Griffin, Edgar Griffin, Harold Cupp, Willie Hill, Richard Cunningham, Edwin Anderson and Harold Taylor. ....A reception was given at the home of Mrs. Snelling, 492 Michigan street.

COLUMBUS, GA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Don't forget to visit Miss Ida C. Pearce's cafe, on Eighth street and Sixth avenue, when you travel through Columbus, Ga., where all young ladies and gentlemen are treated well....Mr. Zemeriah Walker can be found at Broad and Tenth streets, dealing in candy and fruits. He enjoys reading THE FREEMAN and attending the colored shows....Mr. Sam Daniel is one of the most expert press feeders in the world, and has manual skill and dexterity in running machinery. He works at the Gilbert Printing Office....Miss Rosa Lee Reese, of Bainbridge, Ga., is in the city....Mrs. Cora Lee Williams is president of the B. Y. P. U. at Sixth Avenue Baptist Church. She is doing an immense amount of work, and is in her element when doing good in the world.

FLINT, MICH.

Mr. W. M. Hoyle left Saturday for a two weeks' visit in Chicago....Mrs. Kimball, of Windsor, Ont., is the guest of Mrs. George Trtis this week....Dr. E. T. Beck is the guest of his parents, Rev. and Mrs. T. W. Beck, this week....Mrs. T. W. Beck entertained at 6 o'clock dinner Saturday, in honor of her son, Dr. E. T. Beck, of Detroit, Mich. The dining room was beautifully decorated with red and green. Covers were laid for ten....The postoffice at the A. M. E. Church, Christmas eve, was well attended, the children having been well trained by Miss Flora Lawrence.... Mr. Jay Mitchell, of Ann Arbor, Mich., was in the city Monday, the guest of Miss Goldie Burch.

ERIE, PA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. Charles Singleton, of East Fourth street, who was operated on at St. Vincent's Hospital, is at home again and doing nicely....Mrs. A. W. Dale, of Fourth street, who was confined to her bed with illness for two weeks, is able to be up again....Mr. William Brown and Mr. Thomas Pedro are able to be at their work again....The Christmas exercises of the A. M. E. Church were held Wednesday evening. Many beautiful carols were sung by the Sunday-school, with Mrs. Rose Slow as their directress and Miss Lucille Williams at the organ....Mrs. Bertha Hardin entertained at dinner Christmas Mrs. Anna Bacon, Mr. A. Balden and Mr. Jesse Balden....Mr. and Mrs. Drew are rejoicing over the arrival of a fine baby girl. Mother and babe are doing nicely....THE FREEMAN can be had by notifying Mrs. R. J. Young, of 257 East Fourth street, Erie, Pa.

Negroes of Kentucky are much stirred up over the appointments that are likely to come to the Negro. Public sentiment is now being turned toward Dr. E. E. Underwood, of Frankfort, Ky., editor of the Blue Grass Bugle, and one of the most active Republicans of the state. Word was received here from Washington, D. C., a day ago that Dr. Underwood would likely land a good plum at the hands of Mr. Taft. So strongly has he been endorsed by Kentucky Republicans that it is said that it is almost impossible for him to loose out. While others were making a fight early in the game Dr. Underwood remained silent, but now his friends are pushing his candidacy with vigor and enthusiasm.

Dr. Underwood has been regarded by white Republicans, and Negroes also, to be a leader among his people in the state. For nearly twenty years he has been a practicing physician in Frankfort, and has during that time been a delegate to every state Republican convention and a delegate-at-large to the National Republican convention.

He is a race man, having used his paper for the best interests of his people, also to help the Republican party, which he has so long supported faithfully and intelligently. "It is not nown what office may be given Dr. Underwood, but nevertheless he is sure to be appointed to some high position," said one of the Republican congressemen a few days ago. Dr. Underwood has the best wishes of his many Pythian and Odd Fellow friends here and in all parts of the country.

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